United Nations

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

Fortieth session (5 June-1 July and 21-29 August 2000)

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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Abbreviations

ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
NGOs	Non-governmental organizations
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
PPBME	Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
WHO	World Health Organization
UNSIA	United Nations Special Initiative for Africa

Part One
Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the first part of its fortieth session,* held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 June to 1 July 2000

* Originally issued in an advance version as document A/55/16 (Part I and Corr.1 and 2).

Chapter I
Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) at United Nations Headquarters on 2 May 2000 and the first part of its substantive session from 5 June to 1 July 2000. It held a total of 27 meetings and a number of informal consultations.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the fortieth session, which was adopted by the Committee at its 1st meeting, is contained in annex I.

3. In adopting the agenda, the Committee, in accordance with the decision taken at its organizational session, decided to consider at its fortieth session the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system" (A/54/700) and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/54/700/Add.1).

B. Election of officers

4. At its organizational meeting (1st meeting), on 2 May 2000, the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations, re-elected, by acclamation, Michel Tommo Monthe (Cameroon) as Chairman of the Committee for the fortieth session, without prejudice to the pattern of rotation for the post of Chairman adopted by the Committee at its twenty-fifth session.

5. At its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 5 and 6 June, the Committee elected by acclamation the remaining members of the Bureau for the fortieth session:

Vice-Chairmen:
Renata Archini de Giovanni (Italy)
Marta Peña Jaramillo (Mexico)
Sergiy L. Yampolsky (Ukraine)

Rapporteur:
Amjad Hussain B. Sial (Pakistan)

C. Attendance

6. The following States members of the Committee were represented:

Argentina	Mauritania
Bahamas	Mexico
Bangladesh	Pakistan
Benin	Peru
Brazil	Poland
Cameroon	Portugal
China	Republic of Korea
Comoros	Republic of Moldova
Cuba	Russian Federation
Egypt	San Marino
France	Uganda
Gabon	Ukraine
Germany	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Indonesia	United States of America
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Uruguay
Italy	Zambia
Japan	Zimbabwe

7. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Australia	Guatemala
Austria	Guyana
Belarus	India
Botswana	Israel
Colombia	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Costa Rica	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Côte d'Ivoire	Nigeria
Croatia	Romania
Ecuador	Saudi Arabia
Ethiopia	Syrian Arab Republic
Finland	Thailand
Ghana	United Republic of Tanzania

8. The following regional commissions and specialized agencies were represented:

Economic Commission for Africa

Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Regional Commissions New York Office

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

World Health Organization

United Nations Special Initiative for Africa

9. Also present at the session were the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, the Legal Counsel, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information, the Under-Secretary-General for Management, the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Controller, the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries, and senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat.

10. At the invitation of the Committee, Francesco Mezzalama, Inspector of the Joint Inspection Unit, also participated in the work of the Committee.

D. Documentation

11. The list of documents before the Committee at its fortieth session is contained in annex II.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

12. At its 27th meeting, on 30 June 2000, the Committee adopted the draft report on the work of its fortieth session (E/AC.51/2000/L.6 and Add.3-21 and 23-36).

Chapter II
Programme questions

A. Programme planning

1. Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999

13. At its 26th meeting, on 26 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999 (A/55/73).

14. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report of the Secretary-General and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

[See part two, chap. II, paras. 12-20]

Conclusions and recommendations

15. The Committee decided to resume consideration of this programme during the second part of its fortieth session (see part two, chap. II, paras. 21 and 22).

2. Ways in which the full implementation and quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States

16. At its 26th meeting on 26 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States (A/55/85).

17. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report of the Secretary-General and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

[See part two, chap. II, paras. 25-29]

Conclusions and recommendations

18. The Committee decided to resume consideration of this programme during the second part of its fortieth session (see part two, chap. II, para. 30).

B. Proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Introduction

19. At its 5th meeting, on 9 June 2000, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

20. The Under-Secretary-General for Management presented the introduction to the proposed medium-term plan (A/55/6 (Introduction)). The representatives of the Secretary-General responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the document.

Discussion

21. It was stated that the medium-term plan was the principal policy directive of the United Nations. The plan provided the framework for the subsequent biennial programme budgets.

22. It was observed that the plan generally complied with the revised Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning. It was, however, stated that the revised Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning could be applied in a more balanced manner. Besides, more clarity was required on the role that each of the programme and subprogramme components would play in the medium-term plan and on their practical usefulness in evaluation and monitoring.

23. The view was expressed that the proposed medium-term plan, despite improvements over previous plans, was still too broad to be an effective policy guidance document. As an example, it was pointed out that the introduction to the proposed medium-term plan did not contain any reference to the Charter of the United Nations. It was also pointed out that, in general, the medium-term plan bore little relevance to the programme budgets and that its adoption had only minor impact in terms of financing. It was underlined that in order to achieve a sound planning cycle and an integrated management process, monitoring and evaluation must be reflected more effectively throughout the programme planning process.

24. It was indicated that the function of some expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement and their relation to the objectives and activities carried out by the programmes was not clear. Some programme managers were not familiar with the role and added value of those elements in the context of the programmes under their responsibilities.

25. The view was expressed that the identification of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, without making a proper distinction, could create important differences among programmes in the context of the budgeting and evaluation process. As a result, some programmes would be in a better position to show achievements, as for example the will of Member States could be judged as obsolete or not dynamic. The use of those elements in the context of the medium-term plan and the programme budget should be flexible and carried out in a manner that did not create important differences between the programmes that could prejudge their relevance in the context of the budgeting and evaluation process.

26. Further information was requested concerning the review of the proposed medium-term plan by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies. The requested information was subsequently provided to the Committee by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/2000/CRP.1).

27. With respect to legislative mandates, it was considered that some fascicles required further in-depth examination to ensure full compliance with mandates and to ensure that there were no omissions from the proposed medium-term plan of certain substantive activities and legislative mandates.

28. The Secretary-General's description of the challenges before the international community and of the benefits and negative aspects of globalization was acknowledged. The view was expressed that the introduction to the proposed medium-term plan appropriately identified globalization as a major challenge but did not offer clear solutions. The disadvantages and potential risks of globalization, such as further marginalization of weak economies, were pointed out. It was indicated that the process was unjust in its nature as it allowed its beneficiaries to be limited to a small number of countries. It was believed that solutions to the problems of globalization should be based on fairness, democratic principles and diversification.

29. Reservations were expressed regarding aspects of the overall orientation and proposed strategies as it was observed that they did not reflect all of the priorities of Member States. It was held that poverty constituted the primary challenge and that development should take a central position in the work of the Organization.

30. On the other hand, the view was also expressed that peace and security issues retained a very central role in today's world, and that more emphasis should be placed on the prevention of conflicts. Regarding the proposed strengthening of coordination in the area of peace and security, it was considered that the Secretary-General should adhere to the principles of the Charter, including respect for the sovereignty of Member States and the principle of non-intervention in internal matters.

31. The intent to make the best use of technological innovations, as highlighted by the Secretary-General in his introduction, was welcomed. It was pointed out that that should not, however, lead to a wider gap between developed and developing countries.

32. Support was expressed for the efforts of the Secretary-General to mainstream a gender perspective in the activities of the Organization by means of the proposed medium-term plan.

33. It was stated that strong political and financial support from Member States was required for the fulfilment of the Organization's objectives. The Member States and the Secretariat were collectively responsible for the implementation of Organization's programmes.

34. On a topic related to the proposed medium-term plan, a question was raised on the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee regarding revisions to the Rules of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning. Written information was provided by the Secretariat. Concern was expressed that, despite General Assembly resolutions 53/207 and 54/236 and decision 54/474 endorsing the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee at its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions regarding the revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Secretariat, in promulgating the revised text, had violated some of the decisions of the General Assembly in those resolutions. It was also stated that the explanation given by the Secretariat in that regard was satisfactory.

Conclusions and recommendations

35. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly adopt the introduction to the proposed medium-term plan, subject to the observations set out below.

36. In the first sentence of paragraph 5 of the introduction, the words "In the light of the changing nature of security problems, with more intrastate as opposed to inter-State conflicts" should be deleted.

37. The Committee recommended that the priorities for the period 2002-2005 should be as recommended by the Secretary-General in paragraph 26 of document A/55/6 (Introduction), noting that that should not be taken to mean the maintenance of the status quo in programme implementation.

38. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it request the Secretary-General to report on the implications of the new format of the medium-term plan on the cycle of planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation in the context of his next biennial report on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

39. The Committee called the attention of the General Assembly to the fact that some conclusions and recommendations of the Committee at its thirty-ninth session, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/236, regarding revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, had not been fully reflected in document ST/SGB/2000/8.

40. The Committee emphasized that indicators of achievement should be included in the medium-term plan, where possible, in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning.

41. Recognizing that the General Assembly had not yet approved the proposal of the Secretary-General on results-based budgeting, the Committee took note of the fact that the concepts "expected accomplishments", "outputs", "objectives" and "activities" were not exclusively related to and should not be confused with the concept of results-based budgeting.

42. The Committee recognized that expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement increased transparency and clarity in programme design, but it noted that a number of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement in the proposed medium-term plan needed improvement. The Committee recommended re-elaborations in those cases in order to reflect in a more concrete and explicit manner their relation to the objectives and the distinctive nature of the activities carried out by the programmes, in accordance with rules 104.7 (a) and 105.4 (a) (iii) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning.

43. The Committee recommended that the distinct responsibilities of the Secretariat as well as Member States in relation to the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement be identified in order to illustrate the different natures of the objectives of the programmes of the medium-term plan and to identify in a clearer manner some of the elements which have a direct impact on the accomplishment of their objectives.

44. The Committee noted that a gender perspective had been integrated throughout the proposed medium-term plan, as called for in General Assembly resolution 52/100, and in the agreed conclusions 1997/2 of the Economic and Social Council.

45. The Committee emphasized that, in accordance with rule 104.7 (e), all mandates and activities pertinent to the programmes should be included in the medium-term plan.

46. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it look into the legislative mandates to ensure their relevance with the respective programmes, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning.

Programme 1
Political affairs

47. At its 6th meeting, on 12 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 1, Political affairs, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 1)).

48. The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

49. Support was given to the programme and its importance was stressed. It was emphasized that the programme was guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. It was observed that the programme was too brief to include important and necessary details. It was also observed that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement were too general and difficult to measure and to relate to the objectives. In this connection, the view was expressed that these two elements should be further refined in the context of the biennial programme budgets to ensure that they were measurable and quantifiable. Moreover, it was observed that reference to the principles of the Charter should have been included. The view was expressed that all relevant mandates should be listed in the medium-term plan.

50. With respect to subprogramme 1, the importance of conflict prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts was highlighted. The view was expressed that the role of the good offices of the Secretary-General, the role of civilian police and the need for and the impact of expeditious action should be underscored.

51. Under subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs, the view was expressed that fact-finding missions of the Security Council should be given importance since these missions facilitated the work of the Council.

Conclusions and recommendations

52. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 1, Political affairs, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 1.1

The paragraph should read:

"The overall objectives of the programme are to assist States involved in dispute or conflicts to resolve their differences peacefully in

accordance with the principles of the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations and, wherever possible, to prevent conflicts from arising through preventive diplomacy, and peace-making. The direction of the programme is provided in the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly, and the mandates of the Security Council, which has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Within the Secretariat, the substantive responsibility of the programme is vested in the Department of Political Affairs."

Paragraph 1.2

In the first sentence, after the words "conflict prevention and resolution", insert the words "through peaceful means".

Paragraph 1.2

After paragraph 1.2, insert the following paragraph, and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"1.3 The Department will strive in particular to reinforce the Organization's capacity for early warning and good offices, and for non-military measures to prevent disputes from escalating into conflicts, as well as for resolving those which have erupted, while fully respecting the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Member States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, as well as the principle of consent, which is an essential element for the success of such efforts. The Department will also endeavour to enhance its capacity with regard to the political aspects of peace-building, as approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies."

Paragraph 1.4

Replace the words "to prevent, control and resolve" with the words "to assist in the prevention, control and resolution of".

Paragraph 1.5

After the second sentence, insert the following sentence "Activities of the subprogramme will also involve assistance in the preparation of and participation in special missions (fact-finding, goodwill, good offices) dispatched by the Security Council or by the Secretary-General".

In the next sentence, replace the words "potential and actual threats to" with the words "potential or actual conflicts that threaten"; and replace the words "including under Chapter VIII of the Charter" with the words "in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter, where appropriate and when the mandate and scope of regional arrangements and agencies allow them".

In the final sentence, after the words "Member States concerned", insert the words "where appropriate".

Paragraph 1.7

After the words "an increase in the level", insert the words "and effectiveness".

Paragraph 1.8

The paragraph should read:

"The objective of this subprogramme is to render electoral assistance to Member States, on their request and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, through provision of necessary technical and advisory support in coordinating their electoral activities."

Paragraph 1.9

In the first sentence, after the words "Electoral Assistance Division", insert the words "which provides the leading role of all United Nations electoral assistance activities".

Paragraph 1.10

The paragraph should read:

"The technical capacity of Member States requesting assistance for the conduct of elections in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions would be enhanced."

Paragraph 1.11

The paragraph should read:

"An indicator of achievement would be electoral assistance provided to Member States in response to their request."

Paragraph 1.12

The paragraph should read:

"The primary objective of this subprogramme is to provide advice and substantive services to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs."

Paragraph 1.13

In the third sentence, replace the words "possible undesirable effects on" with the words "impact on population in".

At the beginning of the fourth sentence, insert the words "In view of this impact"; and at the end of the sentence, add the words "keeping in view Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations".

After the fourth sentence, insert the following sentence: "Special economic problems of affected third States will also be duly taken into account".

Paragraph 1.21

The paragraph should read:

"Accomplishments would be services provided to the Special Committee, its seminars and the General Assembly; effective research and analytical studies and reports on conditions in the Territories; effective publicity campaigns; and efficient assistance from specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations to the people in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Accomplishments would also include progress made in the decolonization process in accordance with United Nations resolutions."

Paragraph 1.22

The paragraph should read:

"Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) Effectiveness of servicing provided to the Special Committee, its seminars and the General Assembly; effectiveness of research and analytical studies and reports on conditions in the Territories; effectiveness of publicity campaign; and efficiency of assistance from specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations to the people in the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) The degree of satisfaction expressed by Member States on the services provided by the Secretariat;

(c) The level of progress made in the decolonization process in accordance with United Nations resolutions."

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 5, insert the following General Assembly resolutions:

"3376 (XXX)	**Question of Palestine**
32/40 B	**Question of Palestine**
34/65 D	**Question of Palestine**
38/58 B	**Question of Palestine**
46/74 B	**Question of Palestine"**

Programme 2
Disarmament

53. At its 7th meeting, on 12 June 2000, the Committee considered the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2000-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 2, Disarmament.

54. The Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs introduced programme 2 and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

Conclusion and recommendations

55. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 2, Disarmament, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 2.1

The second sentence should read: "The main responsibilities for disarmament lie with Member States, and the United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, has a central role and primary responsibility in supporting Member States in the sphere of disarmament."

Paragraph 2.2

The paragraph should read:

"The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the final document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). While weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, continue to be the primary concern, the Organization would also continue its work in the field of conventional disarmament."

Paragraph 2.3

The second sentence should read: "The Department's strategy for implementing the programme is based on its role and responsibility for facilitating and encouraging, as appropriate, disarmament measures at all levels."

In the third sentence, replace the words "multilateral principles and norms" with the words "multilaterally negotiated principles and norms".

The fourth sentence should read: "The Department will make every effort to ensure that when multilateral agreements in the field of disarmament are negotiated, they will be universally acceptable."

In the fifth sentence, after the words "promote transparency", insert the words "based on the principle of undiminished security for all".

The seventh sentence should read: "The Department will assist Member States in promoting regional approaches to disarmament and security, including through the regional centres for peace and disarmament."

Paragraph 2.4

In the first sentence, after the words "by providing substantive", insert the word "organizational".

Paragraph 2.5

In the first sentence, after the words "international security", insert the words "to assist Member States in the search for agreement".

In the second sentence, after the words "Advisory Services Programme", insert the words "and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research".

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "The Department would also assist Member States in increasing understanding among them of the relationships between disarmament and development."

Paragraph 2.7

The paragraph should read:

"The main objectives of this subprogramme are to promote arms limitation and disarmament, to make every effort to ensure that when multilateral agreements in the field of disarmament are negotiated, they will be universally acceptable and to increase expertise in the field of arms limitation and disarmament in more Member States, in particular developing countries."

Paragraph 2.8

In the second sentence, replace the words "substantive and technical support as well as political advice" with the words "substantive organizational and technical support".

The third sentence should read: "It will assist Member States in the search for agreement on issues under negotiation."

In the fourth sentence, replace the words "substantive support" with the words "substantive organizational support"; and replace the words "Presidents of the review conferences" with the words "Presidents of review conferences".

Paragraph 2.11

In subparagraph (a), replace the words "other meetings" with the words "other relevant meetings".

After subparagraph (a) insert the following subparagraph and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly:

"(b) The effective and full implementation of the existing multilateral arms limitation and disarmament treaties by States parties;"

At the end of subparagraph (b) (renumbered subparagraph (c)), add the words "and greater support for the Disarmament Fellowship Programme by Member States".

Paragraph 2.12

The paragraph should read:

"The main objectives of this subprogramme are to promote the efforts for nuclear disarmament and to assist Member States, as requested, in supporting existing treaties related to weapons of mass destruction."

Paragraph 2.13

Replace the last two sentences with the following sentence: "It will carry out activities related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, as mandated by Member States."

Paragraph 2.14

The chapeau should read:

"In order to strengthen and consolidate existing treaties in the area of weapons of mass destruction, as mandated, the Branch will:"

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) Assist States parties and interested States in their efforts to achieve their full implementation of multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons;"

Paragraph 2.15

In the first sentence, delete the words "In order to foster the development of new principles and norms in the field of weapons of mass destruction".

Paragraph 2.16

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) Facilitation of deliberations and negotiations on disarmament issues related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, by Member States in a smooth and efficient manner;"

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) Greater awareness and understanding of Member States of new trends and developments on specific issues related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons."

Paragraph 2.17

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) Satisfaction expressed by States parties for the assistance provided in fuller implementation of agreements in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons;"

After subparagraph (b) add the following subparagraph:

"(c) Increased and more efficient support to efforts aimed at elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons."

Paragraph 2.18

The paragraph should read:

"The objectives of the subprogramme are to promote greater mutual confidence between Member States in the field of conventional arms and to address destabilizing and excessive accumulations of and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of small arms and light weapons."

Paragraph 2.19

The chapeau in the second sentence should read: "In response to the concerns expressed by Member States and in accordance with the mandates given by those States, the Branch will carry out the following activities:".

In subparagraph (a), after the words "Provide advice and assistance" insert the words "on issues related to conventional weapons, as well as"; replace the words "proliferation of" with the words "excessive and destabilizing accumulation of and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of".

In subparagraph (b), after the words "small arms", insert the words "and light weapons,".

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) Promote cooperation, collaboration and confidence-building measures among interested Member States in the field of conventional arms."

Delete subparagraph (d).

Paragraph 2.20

Replace the words "greater transparency" with the words "mutual confidence between Member States".

Paragraph 2.21

Delete the paragraph.

Paragraph 2.22

In subparagraph (a), replace the word "Broader" with the words "Further development of and wider".

In subparagraph (b), replace the words "proliferation of small arms and light weapons and the illicit arms traffic" with the words "the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of small arms and light weapons".

Paragraph 2.23

At the beginning of subparagraph (a), insert the following words "Further development of and".

Paragraph 2.24

The paragraph should read:

"The main objective of this subprogramme is to provide Member States and the public with objective, impartial and up-to-date information on disarmament activities."

Paragraph 2.25

In subparagraph (c), replace the words "non-governmental organizations and civil society" with the words "and for the exchange of ideas between government and non-governmental sectors, with a view to promoting a better understanding of United Nations endeavours in the field of disarmament".

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph:

"(f) Providing full access of Member States to all pertinent databases related to disarmament."

Paragraph 2.27

After subparagraph (b), add the following subparagraph:

"(c) Provision of up-to-date information on United Nations disarmament activities."

Paragraph 2.28

The paragraph should read:

"The objective of this subprogramme is to promote and enhance international efforts towards global disarmament and international peace and security, through the support and promotion of regional disarmament efforts and initiatives using approaches freely arrived at among the States of the region and taking into account the legitimate requirements of States for self-defence and specific characteristics of each region."

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 2, delete the following General Assembly resolution:

"52/35 Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia"

Under subprogramme 3, add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"52/38 R Transparency in armaments

53/77 B	**Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them**
53/77 E	**Small arms**
53/77 M	**Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures**
53/77 N	**Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**
53/77 T	**Illicit traffic in small arms**
53/77 V	**Transparency in armaments"**

Programme 3
Peacekeeping operations

56. At its 7th meeting, on 12 June 2000, the Committee considered the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 3, Peacekeeping operations.

57. The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations introduced programme 3 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

58. Support was expressed for the activities of peacekeeping operations. Appreciation was expressed regarding the quality of the narrative of the programme, which, it was considered, provided a good blueprint for the activities of peacekeeping operations. It was observed that the new format was an improvement over the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 since it was clear and concise and effectively presented the major components of the programme for peacekeeping operations. The activities of the programme represented one of the highest priorities of the Organization.

59. It was stressed that the recent surge in peacekeeping operations demanded a well-structured response from the Department, which should ensure the capacity to address a wide variety of conflict situations. Respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that were essentially within the jurisdiction of any State was crucial to common efforts to promote international peace and security.

60. It was pointed out that in order for peacekeeping operations to be truly effective, there should be sufficient personnel and other resources to undertake peacekeeping activities. In that context, the Committee reaffirmed the paramount importance of securing staff with the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, due regard being paid to as wide a geographical basis as possible. The view was also expressed that Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations should also apply to the Security Council.

61. The emphasis given to training, the security and safety of peacekeepers in the field and gender mainstreaming was welcomed. In connection with training, the view was expressed that greater emphasis should be given to providing training for

developing countries. It was further noted that recourse to training, in particular specialized training, was an important element of the strategy for the plan period. Emphasis was placed on the management of peacekeeping operations in the field and on the need for a continuous flow of information to and from Member States in all phases of peacekeeping operations.

62. It was expressed that the capacity of the Organization for crisis management operating on short notice should be given highest priority. Attention was drawn to the increased role of civilian police components of peacekeeping operations and to the need to revise the current procedures regarding the category of reserve personnel to be used actively for peacekeeping operations. It was pointed out that care should be taken to ensure that police and military tasks are clearly differentiated. On military and/or civilian police required for the resolution of conflicts, it was emphasized that there was a need to focus on high-quality, readily deployable personnel and integrated planning.

63. The view was expressed that the Secretariat, at all times, should take into account the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. It was pointed out that regional arrangements should be utilized only under the authority of the Security Council and with full cooperation of the Governments concerned.

Conclusions and recommendations

64. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 3, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 3.1

Replace the second sentence with the following sentences: "The legislative authority for the programme derives from the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. The mandates of the programme are provided in resolutions of the Security Council, as well as General Assembly resolutions on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, and on assistance in mine clearance. In respect of peacekeeping operations, legislative authority derives from decisions and resolutions of the Security Council related to particular operations".

Paragraph 3.2

In the first sentence, after the words "is designed around", insert the words "the close coordination of".

In the second sentence, after the words "regional agencies or arrangements", insert the words "where appropriate and when the mandate and scope of regional arrangements and agencies allow them to do so".

In the fifth sentence, replace the words "As mandated by the Security Council, additional activities will include" with the words "The

Security Council, in some particular peacekeeping missions, has authorized the inclusion of such activities as".

In the sixth sentence, after the words "executive law enforcement", insert the words "to include criminal justice functions, as appropriate".

At the beginning of the last sentence, insert the words "In accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations".

After the last sentence, add the following sentences: "The need to differentiate between peacekeeping operations and humanitarian assistance is emphasized. However, if protection of humanitarian assistance is a mandated task of a United Nations peacekeeping operation, both should be coordinated to ensure that they are not working at cross purposes and that the impartiality of humanitarian assistance is ensured".

Paragraph 3.4

After the second sentence, insert the following sentence: "Given the multidimensional nature of peacekeeping operations and the relevant civilian component, more emphasis will be given, where appropriate, to the integrated approach of peacekeeping operations and to a stronger coordination among different entities of the Secretariat during the plan period".

After the last sentence, add the following sentence: "The Department of Peacekeeping Operations will implement the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations as endorsed by the General Assembly".

Paragraph 3.5

After the words "to ensure the effective", insert the words "and rapid".

Paragraph 3.6

At the end of the second sentence, add the words "with emphasis placed on addressing increased workload demand during the start-up phase of peacekeeping operations".

Paragraph 3.9

Replace the words "good offices, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and humanitarian missions" with the words "as well as other activities in the field authorized by the United Nations".

Paragraph 3.11

The paragraph should read:

"The subprogramme will ensure an effective, proactive and coordinated United Nations response to mine infestation throughout the Organization's humanitarian, social and economic assistance activities. It will serve as the focal point within the United Nations system for mine-

related activities, namely, facilitation of a coherent and constructive dialogue between the United Nations and relevant actors on mine clearance, awareness and assistance; the collection, analysis and dissemination, through transparent and recognized sources, of mine-related information, including information on safety standards; advocacy to promote awareness of the serious threat that the indiscriminate use of landmines constitute to the safety, health and lives of local population; and the development and implementation of a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy. It will, in coordination with other organizations in the United Nations system, develop policies on the establishment of mine-clearance capacities in countries requesting a reduction in landmine contamination where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the population. Assessment missions and surveys will be undertaken to establish priorities and oversight. Where appropriate, the subprogramme will develop mine action programmes in support of peacekeeping missions and, as required, initiate mine action plans in humanitarian emergencies."

Paragraph 3.12

Before the words "operational readiness", insert the word "improved".

Paragraph 3.16

The paragraph should read:

"To enhance the Organization's capacity to respond to conflicts in an efficient and prompt manner, the United Nations standby arrangements will be strengthened, as appropriate, to ensure the ready availability of data concerning the immediate capacity of Member States to deploy to new operations."

Programme 4
Peaceful uses of outer space

65. At its 8th meeting, on 13 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 4, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

66. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

67. Support was expressed for the programme. The view was expressed that the use of space technology should benefit all countries and that capacity-building, space science and technology education were important elements of the programme. The importance of legal and policy issues was emphasized. The view was expressed that there should be better linkage between the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

Conclusions and recommendations

68. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 4, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 4.3

The paragraph should read:

"The objective of the programme is to deepen the understanding of the international community of ongoing space activities and the role that space technology can play in economic and social development, as well as to facilitate the use of space science and technology in solving problems of regional or global significance, with an emphasis on its application for sustainable development within and outside the United Nations system, taking into account the strategy to address global challenges in the future, as articulated in 'The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development', adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), as well as the measures agreed to by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to implement the recommendations of the Conference."

Paragraph 4.5

After the first sentence, insert the following sentence: "The Office will assist developing countries, when requested, in the development of national space legislation and ratification of existing outer space treaties".

Paragraph 4.6

The second sentence should read: "It will be expanded to include activities to reach young professionals, university students and the private sector, where appropriate".

Before the last sentence, insert the following sentence: "The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space will seek enhanced involvement of appropriate non-governmental organizations in its work".

Paragraph 4.9

After subparagraph (c), insert the following subparagraphs:

"(d) An improvement in the indigenous capabilities among Member States for utilizing space technology for economic and social development;

"(e) An increase in and further enhancement of training opportunities for developing countries, including fellowships provided to individuals from developing countries to participate in workshops, expert meetings and training courses on various topics of space science and technology and its application."

Programme 5
Legal affairs

69. At its 8th meeting, on 13 June 2000, the Committee considered the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2000-2005. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 5, Legal affairs.

70. The Legal Counsel introduced programme 5 and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

71. Support was expressed for the programme, the importance of which was underscored. The proposed plan for the programme was considered to be well structured for steering the work of the Office of Legal Affairs on the right course.

72. The computerization of treaty registration and publication and the efforts that had been made by the Office of Legal Affairs to eliminate the backlog in the *Treaty Series* were appreciated. This was a good example of how modern technology could be used to improve efficiency. Appreciation was also expressed for the increasing use of the Internet as a medium for the dissemination of publications emanating from the Office. It was also stressed that the issuance of publications in printed form continued to be justified, since the availability of the Internet was still limited in many countries.

73. It was suggested that the Office of Legal Affairs should continue to improve the quality of the administrative issuances, in order to ensure their consistency with the Charter of the United Nations, the decisions of the intergovernmental bodies, particularly the General Assembly, and the regulations and rules of the Organization.

74. Concern was expressed that some aspects of the work of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea might overlap with the mandate of the International Seabed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. In this context, it was noted that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea had clearly delineated the areas of work of each of the entities in question. The Division should be responsive to the recommendations and priorities that emanated from the Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea.

Conclusion and recommendations

75. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 5, Legal affairs, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 5.1

Replace the paragraph with the following text:

"The general objective of the programme is to promote a better understanding of and respect for the principles and norms of international law by Member States in order to support the accomplishment of the objectives of the United Nations."

Paragraph 5.4

In the second sentence, before the word "strengthen", insert the words "aim to".

Paragraph 5.5

The paragraph should read:

"The objective of this subprogramme is to assist the principal organs of the United Nations by providing legal advice."

Paragraph 5.7

Replace the words "United Nations law" with the words "international law and the principles and norms contained in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as pertinent decisions of relevant intergovernmental organs of the Organization".

Paragraph 5.9

After the paragraph, add the following paragraph and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"5.10 A further objective of this subprogramme is to ensure that, as subsidiary organs of the United Nations, the ad hoc International Tribunals for former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda operate in accordance with the Charter, rules, regulations and policies of the United Nations, including the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, and that, as judicial organs, they act independently of States and the Security Council. In the framework of this subprogramme, the Office of Legal Affairs will advise the Security Council on legal aspects of the activities of the Tribunals and will advise the Tribunals on their relationship with third States, relevant peacekeeping operations and the host countries."

Paragraph 5.10 (renumbered 5.11)

The paragraph should read:

"Expected accomplishments would include more qualitative legal advice to principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations."

Paragraph 5.12 (renumbered 5.13)

After the first sentence, add the following sentence: "This would include assisting the Organization (Headquarters, regional commissions, other United Nations offices away from Headquarters and peacekeeping and other missions) and other United Nations organizations in the day-to-day administration of their mandates and programmes, through the provision of legal services".

Paragraph 5.16 (renumbered 5.17)

Insert the word "better" before the word "compliance".

Paragraph 5.19 (renumbered 5.20)

At the end of the paragraph, add the following words: "and implementation of General Assembly resolutions on terrorism, including General Assembly resolution 54/110".

Paragraph 5.20 (renumbered 5.21)

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "Substantive support will also be provided to special committees and open-ended groups established by the Sixth Committee as well as to the International Law Commission".

Paragraph 5.21 (renumbered 5.22)

Before the last sentence, insert the following sentence: "Increased efforts would be undertaken to make legal instruments available on the web sites in all six official languages of the United Nations, as soon as possible and in conformity with existing mandates governing this issue".

Paragraph 5.23 (renumbered 5.24)

After the words "process of codification", insert the words "dealing with issues of major international concern".

At the end of the paragraph, add the words: "an increase in adherence by States to existing instruments; and increased timeliness and availability of codification of international law and legal instruments in all six official languages of the United Nations".

Paragraph 5.30 (renumbered 5.31)

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "The full participation of the Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in both the informal consultative process on oceans and law of the sea and the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination is envisaged."

Paragraph 5.31 (renumbered 5.32)

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "in conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea".

Paragraph 5.36 (renumbered 5.37)

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "Attention will also be given to issues arising from the increasing importance of electronic commerce in international trade".

Paragraph 5.46 (renumbered 5.47)

At the end of the paragraph, add the words: "the timely, as appropriate, registration of treaties by States, in conformity with Article 102 of the Charter".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 3, add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"3006 (XXVII) United Nations Juridical Yearbook

50/53	**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**
51/210	**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**
52/165	**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**
53/108	**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**
54/102	**United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law**
54/107	**Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions**
54/110	**Measures to eliminate international terrorism"**

Programme 6
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services

76. At its 9th meeting, on 13 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 6, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 6)).

77. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services introduced programme 6 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

78. The proposed programme was generally supported, in view of the importance of the work undertaken by the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services and the efforts demonstrated in improving its work.

79. The importance of the provision of timely and high-quality documentation in all official languages of the United Nations, as well as of availability of interpretation services, including the meetings of regional groups, was emphasized. In this context, concern was expressed that the quality of translation done on a contractual basis had not always been consistent and that the arrangement should be kept under review. The introduction and use of new technology by the Department was welcomed, and it was emphasized that it should be geared towards improving

the quality and efficiency of work. The use of the optical disk system was noted with satisfaction. It was expressed that expansion of a new technology in the distribution of documentation should not be considered as a substitution of the traditional means of distribution, which should continue.

80. Support was expressed for the efforts made in expanding the sharing of workload among the various conference centres of the Organization and in the transformation of specific conference services into a United Nations common service. In this context, with reference to paragraph 6.2, views were expressed that efficiency should be strengthened at all conference-servicing centres and not only at Vienna, and that development of conference services as common services should be one of the objectives of the programme.

81. Concern was expressed about the fact that conference services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi had not been included in the formulation of the programme, as all United Nations conference centres should be treated equally. To that end, reference was made to General Assembly resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999, which addressed a number of issues related to the United Nations Office at Nairobi. It was underlined that conference services at that Office should be included in the overall orientation of the programme and that they should also formulate part of the strategies proposed under subprogrammes 2, 3 and 4.

82. It was noted with concern that there was a tendency for the United Nations Environment Programme to hold some of its meetings in other locations rather than at Nairobi. In this connection, views were expressed that the "headquarters rule" in relation to meetings of the United Nations intergovernmental and treaty organs located at Nairobi should be upheld and reinforced.

83. The objectives proposed under the programme were supported, except subprogramme 2. With regard to subprogramme 2, paragraph 6.10, views were expressed that the first objective was too restrictive and should be reformulated, as it implied budgetary constraints. It was also pointed out that rationalization of the allocation of resources was not a primary target, but rather one of the means for improving efficiency of conference services and, therefore, could not be an objective in the medium-term plan. Views were expressed that enhancement of the conference-servicing capacity of the Organization should be an objective of subprogramme 2.

84. It was stated that outsourcing of common conference-servicing needs, document production and printing should be pursued where economically viable and that this should be considered as a separate objective for subprogramme 2.

85. With regard to the expected accomplishment proposed for subprogramme 3, it was stated that, as indicated in paragraph 6.16, the term "progressive enhancement" was not time-limited, and that the achievement of an objective should at least have a time-frame, in order for an assessment to be made as to whether or not the objective had been met within a certain time.

86. It was observed that the indicators of achievement proposed in paragraphs 6.13, 6.17 and 6.21 were too general to allow for a determination as to whether the objectives of the subprogrammes had been reached. Suggestions were made that there should be a specific mechanism established to measure the degree of satisfaction of Member States on programme performance and that relevant resolutions adopted by United Nations organs should be utilized in measuring the

achievement of objectives. It was also expressed that achievement indicators should be established through a dialogue between Member States and the Secretariat.

87. It was stated that there should be no reference made to remote interpretation in paragraph 6.19 of subprogramme 4, as it had not been adopted by the General Assembly or any other intergovernmental body as an interpretation mode. While it was supported, remote interpretation should only be used for the United Nations meetings and conferences held outside the established United Nations locations and should not become a regular interpretation arrangement.

88. A query was raised on paragraphs 6.4 and 6.6 on the role of the programme as it related to conducting research and preparing analytical studies on the rules and procedures and on the application and interpretation of the provisions of the relevant articles of the Charter of the United Nations.

89. It was observed that paragraph 6.5 should make a reference to seminars organized by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples among the activities which would be serviced in the context of subprogramme 1.

Conclusions and recommendations

90. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 6, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 6.1

In the first sentence, after the words "intergovernmental and expert bodies meeting at Headquarters and at", replace the words "the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV)" with the words "the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Office at Vienna and the United Nations Office at Nairobi".

Paragraph 6.2

The last sentence should read: "Further steps should be taken to establish new unified conference-servicing facilities as a United Nations common service and to strengthen the efficiency of existing unified conference-servicing facilities as a United Nations common service".

After the paragraph, insert the following paragraph and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly: "6.3 The Department will take the necessary steps to strengthen the efficiency and increase the utilization of the conference-servicing facility at Nairobi."

Paragraph 6.3 (renumbered 6.4)

In the second sentence, after the words "Other Matters related to the Security Council", replace the comma with the word "and", and delete the

words "and the High-level Open-ended Working Group on the Financial Situation of the United Nations".

Paragraph 6.5 (renumbered 6.6)

After the words "such as visiting missions", insert the words "regional seminars".

Paragraph 6.10 (renumbered 6.11)

The paragraph should read:

"The main objective of the subprogramme is to improve the global planning and coordination of conference services with rational allocation and capacity utilization of the existing conference resources. Another objective is to ensure that intergovernmental bodies, special conferences and Member States in general have access to meeting and documentation services in accordance with the resolutions and rules establishing language arrangements for the various bodies and organs of the United Nations."

Paragraph 6.11 (renumbered 6.12)

In the first sentence, the words "Geneva and Vienna" should be replaced with the words "Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi".

Paragraph 6.12 (renumbered 6.13)

The paragraph should read:

"An expected accomplishment would be improved quality and efficiency of conference services provided to the United Nations organs and satisfaction of all requirements in this regard. Another expected accomplishment would be the implementation of the practice of unified conference servicing in other United Nations conference facilities, where feasible and more cost-effective, without adversely affecting the quality of services provided."

Paragraph 6.15 (renumbered 6.16)

In the first sentence, replace the words "Geneva and Vienna" with the words "Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi".

Paragraph 6.16 (renumbered 6.17)

Replace the words "a progressive" with the word "the".

Paragraph 6.17 (renumbered 6.18)

After the words "the documents they receive", insert the words "and an evaluation of the timeliness of documents produced, while taking into account the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly".

Paragraph 6.19 (renumbered 6.20)

In the first sentence, replace the words "Geneva and Vienna" with the words "Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi".

At the end of the second sentence, add the words "while ensuring that the quality of interpretation is not affected".

At the end of the fifth sentence, add the words "while not affecting the traditional means".

Paragraph 6.21 (renumbered 6.22)

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the words "in the six official languages simultaneously".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 1, delete the following General Assembly resolution:

"52/220 Questions related to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999"

and add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"53/208 Pattern of conferences

54/248 Pattern of conferences

54/249 Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001"

Under subprogrammes 2, 3 and 4, add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"50/11 Multilingualism

53/208 Pattern of conferences"

91. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to revise the operational arrangements for the conference services in Nairobi and transfer the responsibility for those services to the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, with a view to the management of the conference-servicing resources in all United Nations established headquarters in an integrated manner and the achievement of the most efficient utilization of the resources, and to report on the implementation of that reorganization in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

92. At its 10th and 11th meetings, on 14 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 7, Economic and social affairs of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 7)).

93. The Under-Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

94. Support was expressed for the activities of the programme, encompassing key aspects of the Organization's work in the economic and social fields. Appreciation was expressed regarding the clarity and concision with which all eight subprogrammes of the programme's narrative were presented. Satisfaction was expressed about the focus in the overall orientation of the programme on the special needs of Africa, the least developed countries and the promotion of South-South cooperation. Special circumstances and needs of transit developing countries should also be included in the orientation of the programme.

95. It was observed that the reference to more active interaction between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions should have been expanded and that there should be a closer link between the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and the work of the General Assembly. It was also pointed out that the issue of support to non-governmental organizations and of interactions between the Council and non-governmental organizations should have been included among the objectives of the subprogramme.

96. It was stated that the concept of economic growth should be an integral part of the subprogramme on sustainable development. Reference to development targets should have been made. It was emphasized that South-South cooperation should be an important dimension of operational activities executed under the subprogramme.

97. It was stated that closer collaboration with other international organizations would continue in order to improve economic, social, demographic, environment, trade and other related statistics and to promote the systems in particular including through training and other forms of technical cooperation.

98. An increase in the number of requests by users including the member States for the Division's statistical data was emphasized.

99. It was observed that globalization should have been presented in a more balanced manner.

Conclusions and recommendations

100. A draft recommendation was before the Committee (for the final text of the recommendation, see part two, chap. II, para. 39).

101. At its 27th meeting, on 1 July 2000, the Committee decided to resume consideration of paragraph 7.37 (e) of programme 7 during the second part of its fortieth session. It also decided to take a decision on the entire programme at that session (see part two, chap. II, para. 39).

Programme 8
Africa: New Agenda for Development

102. At its 11th meeting, on 14 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 8, Africa: New Agenda for Development, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

103. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

104. Strong support was expressed for the programme and its stated objective of advocacy on behalf of Africa to facilitate the region's economic recovery and sustainable development. It was stressed that the situation of Africa continued to be of great concern to the international community and that African development should continue to be a priority during the period 2002-2005.

105. In addition to its own efforts, it was emphasized that Africa needed effective and concrete assistance and that the international community should increase its technical and financial support to African countries. The importance of a just and equitable system that would enable Africa to be integrated in the world economy, and to take advantage of and benefit from globalization, was stressed. The challenges and opportunities arising from globalization should have been reflected in the programme narrative.

106. It was considered that the information on the overall impact of the various initiatives on economic recovery and development in Africa should have been provided. The programme narrative should refer to the internationally agreed targets on resource flows.

107. It was noted that the indicators of achievement were too cautious and conservative and did not reflect the plight of Africa and the needs of the countries of the region. Under subprogrammes 1 and 2, indicators were not adequate yardsticks to measure the support of the international community.

108. The importance of microcredit in fostering economic development was underlined and it was proposed that reference to it be included in the programme strategy.

109. It was observed that South-South cooperation should have been reflected more specifically, including by an indication of concrete and practical examples of such cooperation.

Conclusions and recommendations

110. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly adopt programme 8, Africa: New Agenda for Development, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 8.11

After the words "The indicators of achievement would include:", insert the following subparagraph and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly:

"(a) An increase in the level of resource flows to Africa (bearing in mind that there are various factors which will significantly impact the level of resources);"

Paragraph 8.16

Delete subparagraph (b) and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly;

In subparagraphs (c), (d), (e) and (f), after the words "the number", insert the words "and impact".

Paragraph 8.18

In the last sentence, after the words "occasional press kits and press releases", insert the words "and radio programmes -- in local languages and with greater emphasis on local content —".

Legislative mandates

Insert the following *General Assembly resolution*: "54/35 Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

Programme 9
Trade and development

111. At its 18th meeting, on 20 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 9, Trade and development, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 9)).

112. The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

113. Support was expressed for the programme and the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the interrelated issues in finance, investment, technology and sustainable development, was stressed. The overall importance of the work of the Organization under programme 9 was also underscored.

114. It was observed that the use of qualitative indicators may not be possible for activities relating to analysis or activities that aim to promote approaches. Moreover, expected accomplishments should have been better formulated to effectively address the objectives of the programme.

115. The successful outcome of the Tenth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000, was noted. The results of this conference and other relevant mandates should have been included in the Secretary-General's proposals on programme 9.

116. The overall orientation of the programme was supported. Nevertheless, it was also pointed out that the orientation should have been more specific, and that it should have adequately reflected the negative effects of globalization.

117. Subprogramme 1 should have made reference to the role of UNCTAD in respect of the high-level intergovernmental event on financing for development. Unlike the medium-term plan for the current period, subprogramme 1.A did not

make specific reference to assistance to the Palestinian people to develop capacities for effective policy making and management pertaining to international trade.

118. The inclusion of the Development of Africa as subprogramme 1.B was welcomed. Nevertheless, the broad mandate provided in the objective should have been limited to UNCTAD's field of expertise.

119. In relation to subprogramme 2, the importance of transnational corporations, as one of the actors in the development sector, was stressed.

120. The role of UNCTAD in assisting the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in designing policies and actions for an efficient and beneficial integration into the world economy was underscored.

Conclusions and recommendations

121. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 9, Trade and development, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 9.1

In the first sentence, replace the words "that enhances the development opportunities offered by the globalization process" with the words "that enhances the development opportunities of, and addresses the problems associated with, the globalization process";

Paragraph 9.4

In the sixth sentence, after the words "landlocked developing countries", insert the words "transit developing countries".

Paragraph 9.5

After paragraph 9.5, insert the following paragraph and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"9.6 The follow-up of the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries would constitute the core mandate for UNCTAD on work relating to least developed countries. The Global Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Integrated Framework for Transit Transport Developing Countries would be the basis for UNCTAD's focal role with regard to work concerning small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries. Subprogrammes 1 through 4 will continue to devote special attention to Africa, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States."

Paragraph 9.7 (renumbered 9.8)

Replace the words "human development" with the words "sustained economic growth and sustainable development".

Paragraph 9.8

After the second sentence, insert the following sentence: "The interdependence between trade, finance, technology and investment and the impact of such interdependence on development will contribute to achieving coherence in global economic policy-making".

In the fourth (now the fifth) sentence, replace the words "debate on the reform of the international financial system" with the words "debate on issues relating to the need for the reform of the international financial institutions, including the enhancing of early-warning response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises".

At the end of the fifth (now the sixth) sentence, add the words "in accordance with paragraph 109 of the Plan of Action adopted by UNCTAD at its tenth session".

The sixth (now the seventh) sentence should read: "The subprogramme will continue its work in assisting the Palestinian people to develop capacities for effective policy-making and management pertaining to international trade, investment and related services."

In the last sentence, after the words "will aim at contributing to", insert the words "the follow-up of the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development, and".

Paragraph 9.16 (renumbered 9.17)

In the second sentence, after the words "integration of investment", insert the words "transnational corporations".

After the second sentence, insert the following sentence: "The subprogramme will provide analysis on the role of multinational enterprises in promoting development".

In the fourth (now the fifth) sentence, after the words "foreign investment", add the words "transnational corporations".

The fifth (now the sixth) sentence should read: "It will also provide analysis on the role of international investment arrangements for the purpose of attracting and benefiting from foreign investment, enhancing technological capacity and promoting enterprise, and the role of such arrangements in the development process".

At the end of the last sentence, add the words "and the role of transnational corporations in international investment, enterprise internationalization, transfer of technology and globalization".

Paragraph 9.17

Before the words "and increased understanding of key concepts of treaties", insert the words "global activities of transnational corporations".

Paragraph 9.20

Subparagraph (d) should read: (d) "analytical work and technical assistance to developing countries in multilateral negotiations on agriculture, as outlined in paragraph 133 of the Plan of Action adopted by UNCTAD at its tenth session".

In subparagraph (f), after the words "consensus-building in trade", insert the words "and WTO-related issues, *inter alia*, by".

In subparagraph (j), after the words "consumer protection issues", insert the words "with particular relevance to development".

Paragraph 9.24

In the second sentence, after the words "developing countries", insert the words "and countries with economies in transition".

Paragraph 9.28

At the end of the last sentence, add the words "including developing transit systems in transit developing countries".

Paragraph 9.33

After subparagraph (g), add the following subparagraph: "(h) explore the synergies of the use of the COMTRADE database along with TRAINS, and allow developing countries a wider access to these databases".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 1, add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"53/172	**The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries**
54/196	**High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development**
54/197	**Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries**
54/231	**Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and independence"**

Programme 10
Environment

122. At its 11th meeting, on 14 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 10, Environment (A/55/6 (Prog. 10)) of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

123. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

124. Support was expressed for the programme. Satisfaction was expressed regarding the quality of the narrative in the fascicle and the structure of the programme. It was noted that there should have been better linkage between the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

125. It was observed that environmental assessment and early warning are very important activities, which should be carried out in close coordination with Member States and various organizations, bearing in mind their requirements. In this connection, the importance of dissemination and broadening of access to relevant information on the protection of the environment, as well as strengthening links between United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) evaluation of the situation and the implementation of the recommendations, were emphasized.

126. The importance of enhanced public awareness about environmental problems and concerns in the work of UNEP was emphasized. In this context, it was proposed to move the last sentence of paragraph 10.11 from subprogramme 2 to overall orientation, paragraph 10.4.

127. The collaboration with other bodies and organizations of the United Nations system should be enhanced. In this context, the role of the regional commissions, UNDP regional offices and other organizations in further strengthening coordination with UNEP was emphasized.

128. It was stated that participation of the general public was crucial for environment programme activities, and in that regard information dissemination was underlined. It was noted that the UNEP Internet site should be improved to facilitate public access to UNEP documentation in all official languages.

Conclusions and recommendations

129. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 10, Environment, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 10.8

At the end of subparagraph (c), insert the words "including the Global Environmental Outlook".

Paragraph 10.12

After subparagraph (g), insert the following subparagraph: "(h) a better linkage between UNEP work and the international commitments agreed under multilateral environmental agreements in order to support those efforts, as appropriate".

Paragraph 10.13

Subparagraph (f) should read: "an increase in the cooperation of non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors of the civil society working effectively with UNEP as partners".

Paragraph 10.19

In the second sentence, after the word "transfer", insert the words "on favourable terms".

Paragraph 10.20

At the end of subparagraph (a), add the words "as well as alternative projects".

In subparagraph (d), after the words "technology transfer", insert the words "on favourable terms".

In subparagraph (e), after the words "widespread transfer", insert the words "on favourable terms".

Paragraph 10.27

After the words "the conventions concerned", insert the words "in order to facilitate the implementation by the Governments of their commitments under the conventions".

Paragraph 10.28

At the end of subparagraph (c), add the following words: "and assisting Government in implementing commitments undertaken in multilateral environmental agreements, through capacity-building and other relevant activities".

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph: "(f) assisting Governments, upon request, with reporting obligations required under international instruments to which they are parties".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 1, insert the following General Assembly resolution:

"53/242 Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements"

and insert the following UNEP Governing Council decisions:

"SS.V-2 Revitalization, reform and strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme

19/1 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme"

Programme 11
Human settlements

130. At its 12th meeting, on 15 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 11, Human settlements, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 11)).

131. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

132. Support was expressed for the programme. Its streamlining into two subprogrammes was welcomed. However, the objective and the strategy in subprogrammes 1 and 2 did not convincingly describe how to produce expected accomplishments or how to achieve the indicators.

133. It was observed that mandates emanating from United Nations conferences and the five-year review of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) should have been cited as mandates for this programme.

134. There was also no specific reference to several objectives that had been mentioned in the previous plan, such as assistance to Governments to promote policies, enabling strategies and delivery systems for housing and social services, adequate housing and so forth. It was also observed that there was a lack of clarity as regards provision of assistance in policy formulation and advisory services, as well as in supporting United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) partners, which were primary goals of Habitat.

135. It was noted that the issues of rural shelter did not receive sufficient attention and that they should have been addressed in the programme, which tended to focus on urbanization and city issues.

136. The view was expressed that the promotion of the World Charter of Local Self-Government should be deleted from the narrative, as exceeding the Habitat Agenda and not mandated.

137. The programme should have had a reference to provision of assistance, including financial aid, to developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in their efforts to implement the Habitat Agenda. It was also observed that more attention should be given to preparedness for disaster prevention.

138. There should have been more emphasis on coordination and cooperation within the United Nations system to facilitate better implementation of this programme.

Conclusions and recommendations

139. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 11, Human settlements, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 11.1

After the first sentence, insert the following sentences: "The goals of the Habitat Agenda are adequate shelter for all and sustainable human

settlements development in an urbanizing world. The mandate of the programme is derived from the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), in particular the Habitat Agenda, and General Assembly resolutions 32/162, by which the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) was established, and 43/181, by which the Assembly adopted the Global Strategy for Shelter to the year 2000. The mandate derives also from the decisions of the relevant legislative bodies regarding Agenda 21 (chaps. 7, 21 and 28)".

Paragraph 11.2

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "The Centre will support developing countries through technical cooperation in achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development and will evaluate, promote and monitor the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and will undertake the preparation for the special session of the General Assembly for the five-year review of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

Paragraph 11.3

In the second sentence, after the words "United Nations Development Programme", insert the words "United Nations Children's Fund".

Title of subprogramme 1

Replace the heading "Shelter for all" with the heading "Adequate shelter for all".

Paragraph 11.4

In the first sentence, replace the words "acknowledging the right of the poor to urban shelter and services" with the words "acknowledging the right of the poor to an adequate standard of living, which includes housing".

Paragraph 11.5

After the words "The overall objective of the subprogramme is", insert the words "to support Governments and other United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) partners".

Paragraph 11.6

Delete the text "as its entry point, a rights-based Global Campaign for Secure Tenure, in which the main activity of Habitat will be to promote, globally, relevant norms and standards, to provide specialized substantive support to Member States, and to capture the normative lessons learned and devise appropriate mechanisms for their assimilation, analysis and dissemination. Other elements of the strategy include" and merge the remaining text of the second and third sentences;

After the last sentence, insert the following text:

"Other elements of the strategy will be as follows:

"(a) To promote policies, enabling strategies and delivery systems for housing and social services that are responsive to the need for adequate shelter and security of tenure;

"(b) To strengthen the capacity at national and local levels to contribute to shelter delivery in poor urban and rural settlements;

"(c) To support developing countries through technical cooperation in achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development";

Paragraph 11.8

In subparagraph (a) (i) delete the word "secure".

Title of subprogramme 2

Replace the heading "Sustainable urban development" with the heading "Sustainable human settlements development".

Paragraph 11.10

After the words "The objective of the subprogramme is", insert the words "to support Governments and other United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) partners in".

Paragraph 11.11

The last sentence should read: "Another element of the strategy is to promote the decision-making policies on human settlements management through local government, as appropriate".

Legislative mandates

Under programme 11, add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"53/180 Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

54/207 Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

54/208 Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)"

Programme 12
Crime prevention and criminal justice

140. At its 12th meeting, on 15 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 12, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

141. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

142. Support for the programme was expressed. It was noted that the programme was one of the priorities of the Organization. Efforts made to streamline and to prioritize the activities under the programme were welcomed. It was stated that the programme should have focused on areas in which the United Nations could offer a comparative advantage. The attention given to gender mainstreaming was appreciated. The programme's work on transnational organized crime was supported. The fight against transnational organized crime should be treated as a priority. It was observed that there was an excessive emphasis on legal instruments and that it was necessary to establish a better balance between the various activities carried out under the programme.

Conclusions and recommendations

143. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 12, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 12.1

The paragraph should read: "The overall objective of the programme is to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Governments in tackling crime problems, such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems. The mandate of the programme is provided in resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the recommendations emanating from the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders."

Paragraph 12.2

In the first sentence, delete the words "the Centre for International Crime Prevention".

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and to the General Assembly".

Paragraph 12.3

Before subparagraph (a), insert the following subparagraph, and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"(a) Promoting and implementing the outcome of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, the decisions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and the relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;"

In subparagraph 12.3 (a) (renumbered (b)), replace the words "and corruption" with the words "trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption and illicit trafficking in firearms".

At the end of subparagraph (b) (renumbered (c)), add the words "prison reforms, independence of judiciary and prosecution authorities, the juvenile justice system and restorative justice approaches, in particular to assist Governments in protecting vulnerable adolescent groups from being recruited by organized criminals".

After subparagraph 12.3 (c) (renumbered (d)), add the following subparagraph and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly:

"(e) The programme will assist Governments in their national and multilateral efforts to respond to changing crime trends, as well as to create the necessary instruments and institutions for a more accountable, transparent and effective crime prevention and control system. The programme will also endeavour to disseminate expertise in the effective and humane handling of offences, offenders and victims".

In subparagraph (d), after the word "terrorism", insert the words "in all its forms and manifestations".

At the end of subparagraph (d) (renumbered (f)), add the words "by addressing its criminal aspects".

After subparagraph (e) (renumbered g)), add the following subparagraphs:

"(h) Continue to develop, in consultation with Member States, an effective global programme for technical cooperation to assist in fighting corruption;

"(i) Supporting Governments to address the root causes of crimes;

"(j) Emphasizing and enhancing the prevention and rehabilitation programme;

"(k) Urging increased donor cooperation".

Paragraph 12.4

In the first sentence, replace the words "international efforts" with the words "national efforts".

Paragraph 12.5

The second sentence should read: "In addition, it will assist in the development of a new international legal instrument to combat corruption".

At the end of the last sentence, add the words "in synergy with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Justice Programme Network Institutes".

Paragraph 12.6

The last sentence should read: "Country-specific needs assessments would be undertaken".

Paragraph 12.7

The paragraph should read:

"Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) The adoption and entry into force, with the assistance of the Centre at the request of Governments, of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the protocols thereto;

(b) The expansion of global knowledge of and expertise to deal with crime problems, such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms, and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;

(c) The enhanced capacity of Member States to respond at the national, regional and international levels to crime problems such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms, and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems".

Paragraph 12.8

The paragraph should read:

"Indicators of achievements would include:

(a) The number of Member States requesting and receiving assistance in signing or ratifying the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the protocols thereto;

(b) Best practices and information disseminated; research undertaken and new techniques developed and shared among Member States to respond to crime problems, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;

(c) The number of countries requesting and receiving technical assistance, as well as the development of plans to enhance the capacity of

Member States to respond at the national, regional and international levels in order to respond to crime problems, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;

(d) The quality and accessibility of databases maintained by the Centre;

(e) Improved technical assistance in addressing crime problems; increase in the number of trained criminal justice personnel".

Legislative mandates

Add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"54/125 Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

54/127 Activities of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as consideration of the need to develop an instrument on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives

54/129 High-level Political Signing Conference for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

54/130 African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders"

Add the following Economic and Social Council resolutions:

"1999/23 Work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme

1999/24 Action to promote cooperation and the functioning of the clearing house on international projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

1999/25 Effective crime prevention

1999/26 Development and implementation of mediation and restorative justice measures in criminal justice

1999/27 Penal reform

1999/28 Administration of juvenile justice"

Programme 13
International drug control

144. At its 13th meeting, on 15 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 13, International drug control of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 13)).

145. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

146. Support for the programme was expressed. It was noted that the programme was one of the priorities of the Organization. Encouragement for the participation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) was underlined.

147. It was noted with appreciation that the overall orientation reflected an integrated approach and that the activities to be carried out had been described in a comprehensive manner. The importance of maintaining an overall balance between supply and demand was stressed. However, more references should have been made to the outcome of the twentieth special session. Concern was expressed about the omission of substantive goals to be achieved by the years 2003 and 2008, which were articulated in the Political Declaration and Action Plan adopted by the General Assembly at the special session. It was observed that assistance to Member States in achieving these goals should have been articulated in the overall approach.

148. Omission of reference to transit States was noted in the overall orientation. It was suggested that subprogramme 1 would be the appropriate place to include an expected accomplishment and an indicator of achievement related to transit States.

149. It was observed that General Assembly resolution 54/132 applied to all subprogrammes.

Conclusions and recommendations

150. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 13, International drug control, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 13.1

Replace the first two sentences with the following sentence: "The overall objective of the programme is the reduction of drug production, trafficking, consumption and related crime through concerted international action."

In the fourth (now third) sentence, replace the words "those mandates" with the words "the mandates". In the fifth (now fourth) sentence, after the words "in addition", insert the words "relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and".

After paragraph 13.1, insert the following paragraph:

"13.1 *bis* The General Assembly, at its twentieth special session in 1998, adopted the Political Declaration which specified the year 2003 as a target for the establishment or strengthening of national drug control legislation and programmes related to measures adopted at the special session and the year 2008 as a target for achieving significant results in the field of demand reduction and for eliminating or significantly reducing the illicit cultivation of coca, *cannabis and opium*. At its twentieth special session, the General Assembly also adopted a declaration on guiding principles of drug demand reduction; an action plan on amphetamine-type stimulants; an action plan on the eradication of illicit crops and alternative development; a resolution on countering money-laundering; and

measures to enhance international cooperation on drug control, precursor control and promotion of judicial cooperation."

Paragraph 13.4

Replace the second sentence with the following sentences: "The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), established by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, is responsible for promoting Governments' compliance with the provisions of the drug control treaties and to assist them in this effort. The Board's tasks are laid down in the treaties. The Board reports to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs".

Paragraph 13.6

In the second sentence, after the words "Global Programme of Action", insert the words "and the most recent Political Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in 1998".

In the second sentence, after the words "decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly", insert the words "the outcome of the two special sessions of the General Assembly contained in its resolutions S-17/2, S-20/2, S-23/3 and S-20/4".

Delete the third sentence.

In the last sentence, replace the words "for application by Governments" with the words "to propose to Governments".

Paragraph 13.8

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) Improved efforts to support Governments to implement the Global Plan of Action and the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, within the agreed time-frames, in particular the high priority practical measures at the international, regional or national levels indicated in those documents; assist civil society in improving the quality of its activities and projects; to cooperate closely with Governments in their efforts to counter the world drug problem;"

After subparagraph (c), insert the following subparagraph:

"(c) *bis* Progress made towards the adoption and implementation of measures to strengthen national legislation and progress giving effect to the action plan against illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors; to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture, marketing and trafficking of other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and diversion of precursors; to adopt national money laundering legislation and programmes; and to promote and strengthen judicial cooperation measures;"

Paragraph 13.9

The paragraph should read:

"Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) Completion of needs assessments for multilateral cooperation on drug control;

(b) The number of countries incorporating the strategies and recommendations of the General Assembly at its twentieth special session into national, regional and international drug control-related policies, within the agreed time-frames; an assessment of the quality of civil society activities and progress, in close cooperation with Governments;

(c) The impact of the publications on Member States' drug control policies."

Paragraph 13.12

After the first sentence, insert the following sentence: "Efforts will be made to provide the latest border-control equipment for surveillance, intelligence and effective border controls".

Paragraph 13.13

Delete subparagraph (c).

At the end of subparagraph (h), add the words "through appropriate control measures".

Subprogramme 3

The title of the subprogramme should read: "Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse, treatment and rehabilitation of drug victims".

Paragraph 13.16

After the second sentence, insert the following sentence: "It will also help pace up the rehabilitation of drug victims and their consequent absorption into the social mainstream".

In the fourth (now fifth) sentence, after the words "reducing drug abuse", insert the words "and rehabilitation of victims".

The last sentence should read: "UNDCP would assist each Member State in establishing new or enhanced drug demand reduction strategies and programmes by the year 2003 in accordance with article 17 of the Political Declaration of 1998 and the Global Programme of Action".

Delete the last sentence of the paragraph.

After paragraph 13.16, add the following paragraph:

"13.16 *bis* Scientific and technical information on drugs and precursors will be made available to Governments, as well as research on and analysis of patterns of and trends in illicit drug trafficking."

Paragraph 13.17

Before subparagraph (a), insert the following subparagraph, and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly: "(a) Progress made to meet goals and targets established on drug demand reduction in the Political Declaration of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, and the Declaration and Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Action Plan;"

At the end of subparagraph (d) (now (e)), insert the words "for rehabilitation of drug victims".

Paragraph 13.18

In subparagraph (a), after the words "demand reduction", insert the words "and rehabilitation"; and at the end of the subparagraph, add the words "and its Action Plan".

Delete subparagraph (b), and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly.

In subparagraph (c) (now (b)), replace the word "results" with the words "resulting in a decrease in the number of drug abusers".

After subparagraph (c) (now (b)), add the following subparagraph:

"(c) Number of Member States introducing new or enhanced drug demand reduction strategies and programmes by the year 2003 in accordance with article 17 of the Political Declaration of 1998."

Paragraph 13.19

The paragraph should read:

"The objectives of the subprogramme are to:

(a) Strengthen the capacity of Governments to measure the extent, causes and effects of illicit production and on the basis of that information to develop effective countermeasures, including alternative development programmes;

(b) Assist and support, upon request, transit States, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, aiming at enhancing their capacity to fight illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account national plans and initiatives, and emphasizing the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking."

Paragraph 13.20

In the second sentence, delete the words "international standards of core indicators and"; and replace the words "cultivation of opium poppy and coca bush and the production of opium and coca" with the words "cultivation, including production in enclosed premises, of opium poppy,

cannabis plant and coca bush and the production of opium, synthetic drugs and coca".

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "UNDCP would assist Member States in establishing or strengthening national legislation and programmes giving effect to the Action Plan against Illegal Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Money-Laundering by the year 2003, in accordance with articles 13, 15 and 16 of the Political Declaration of 1998".

Paragraph 13.21

At the end of the sixth sentence, insert the words "and cultivation modalities".

After paragraph 13.21, insert the following paragraph (subparagraph 13.10 (g) of the current medium-term plan):

"13.21 *bis* Governments will be supported in increasing the effectiveness of national action against illicit drug trafficking. To that end, Governments will be assisted to enhance judicial cooperation to deal with criminal organizations involved in drug offences and related criminal activities and to apprehend international drug traffickers through the promotion of multilateral, regional and subregional judicial cooperation and the provision of advice, assistance and training. They will also be assisted to adopt and implement national drug control legislation in an effective manner; to prevent and detect illicit trafficking of precursors and drugs, in particular heroin, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants, and to detect and prevent money laundering. National drug analysis and pharmaceutical control laboratories will be strengthened and provided with required technical and scientific information. Collaboration among law enforcement training providers will be improved at the national and international levels."

Paragraph 13.22

Before subparagraph (a), insert the following subparagraph, and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly:

"(a) Progress made to meet goals and targets established in the Political Declaration of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;"

After subparagraph (b) (now (c)), delete the final subparagraph and insert the following subparagraphs:

"(d) To increase regional and international cooperation between Member States in the field of supply reduction;

(e) A determination of efforts to control the precursors, to eliminate or significantly reduce the illicit cultivation of the coca bush, the cannabis plant and the opium poppy by the year 2008, in accordance with articles 14 and 19 of the Political Declaration of 1998."

Paragraph 13.23

Before subparagraph (a), insert the following subparagraph, and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly:

"(a) Number of Member States to establish or strengthen national legislation and programmes giving effect to the Action Plan against Illegal Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Money-Laundering by the year 2003, in accordance with articles 13, 15 and 16 of the Political Declaration of 1998;

Subparagraph (b) (now (c)) should read:

"(c) A listing of the countries which have established mechanisms to monitor illicit crop production, including in enclosed premises, and trafficking;"

Subparagraph (d) (now (e)) should read:

"(e) An increase in the number of Member States designing and implementing more effective policies in order to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit cultivation, including in enclosed premises, of coca bush, cannabis plant and opium poppy;"

After subparagraph (d) (now(e)), insert the following subparagraphs:

"(f) An increase in the number of transit States reporting successful drug control actions in terms of regional cooperation, interdiction, arrests and seizures;

(g) An increase in the number of countries and regional organizations actively cooperating against illicit cultivation and trafficking of illicit drugs."

List of mandates

After the list of legislative mandates under subprogramme 2, insert the following:

"Subprogramme 3
Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse

General Assembly resolutions

S-20/3 Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction

S-20/4 Measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem"

Under subprogramme 4, insert the following mandates:

"*General Assembly resolutions*

S-20/2 Political Declaration

S-20/4 Measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem"

Programme 14
Economic and social development in Africa

151. At its 14th meeting, on 16 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 14)).

152. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

153. Support was expressed for the programme, which was one of the priority areas of the Organization, and its improved presentation was noted. It was observed that there were clear strategies, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement in the fascicle. The inclusion of the new subprogramme on promoting trade and mobilizing finance for development was welcomed. In this connection, the need to mobilize additional financial resources for Africa's development was emphasized.

154. It was noted that more coordination with other programmes relating to Africa, in particular programme 8, Africa: New Agenda for Development, was needed. Cooperation by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) with other international organizations, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular in the field of macroeconomics, should be strengthened. It was noted that cooperation with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) should be also increased. Aside from this, more emphasis is needed on deepening the process of regional cooperation and integration in the region.

155. The view was expressed that besides placing emphasis on the development of modern information and communication technologies, more attention should be given to improvement of traditional means of information and communication and to the related infrastructure which should be created in the countries which lacked it. The view was expressed that distance education, including remote and on-line training and learning, should be reflected in the narrative.

156. It was observed that more details should be provided on different activities of the subregional development centres.

Conclusions and recommendations

157. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 14.4

After subparagraph (g), add the following subparagraph: "(h) To work towards complementing and enhancing the work of other organizations".

Paragraph 14.9

In subparagraph (a), in the third sentence, replace the words "training member States" with the words "assisting member States".

In subparagraph (b), in the last sentence, after the words "and sensitizing policy makers", insert the words "and more importantly, local communities at the grass-roots level"; and after the words "HIV/AIDS", replace the word "epidemic" with the words "and other epidemics, such as malaria".

Paragraph 14.13

In subparagraph (b), in the second sentence, replace the words "creating awareness on" with the word "increasing".

Paragraph 14.17

In subparagraph (b), after the words "*In the area of science and technology*", insert the following sentence "Emphasis will be placed on the promotion of indigenous technology to achieve the goal of food security and sustainable development".

Paragraph 14.20

After the words "civil society organizations", insert the words "at the national level".

Paragraph 14.21

In subparagraph (a), in the first sentence, after the words "civil society actors", insert the words "at the national level".

In subparagraph (a), in the first sentence, replace the words "enhancing their capacity to perform watchdog functions in the fields of accountability, good governance and conflict prevention and resolution as well as in community-level development" with the words "enhancing their capacity to perform analysis and effective advocacy on public policy".

In subparagraph (b), in the second sentence, after the words "towards norms of", replace the word "good" with the words "transparent and accountable";

In subparagraph (b), in the last sentence, after the words "public sector managers", replace the existing text with the words "and, in collaboration with Member States which may request it, training in transparent and accountable governance for parliamentarians";

Paragraph 14.22

(i) After the words "partnership for development and", replace the word "good" with the words "transparent and accountable";

(ii) After the words "civil society organizations", insert the words "at the national level";

Paragraph 14.23

After the words "civil society organizations", insert the words "at the national level";

Paragraph 14.25

In subparagraph (b), in the second sentence, replace the words "equitable infrastructure in order" with the words "appropriate infrastructure"; and in the third sentence, replace the words "particularly in key sectors, such as health (e.g., tele-medicine and community health information systems), education (e.g. distance and on-line learning and the building of school networks)" with the words "particularly in key social and economic sectors, such as health, education".

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the following sentence: "Assistance will be provided to strengthen the role of the radio as a major and most accessible means of information in the local communities".

Paragraph 14.29

In subparagraph (b), in the first sentence, after the words "mineral and energy resources", insert the words "including solar energy".

Paragraph 14.30

The paragraph should read:

"Expected accomplishments would include: (a) substantial progress made at national, subregional and regional levels in the emplacement of the various institutional and functional arrangements required for the establishment of the African Economic Community; (b) enhanced capacity in member States for policy formulation and programme development for the effective exploitation of mineral and energy resources; (c) increased, effective and harmonized utilization of transboundary water resources, as well as enhanced capacity for water resource management in member States; (d) substantial implementation of the Framework of Action adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications".

Paragraph 14.31

The paragraph should read:

"Indicators of achievement would include the following: (a) the number of institutions and arrangements for enhanced integration and cooperation established by member States in their efforts to implement the provisions of the African Economic Community; (b) concrete steps taken by member States to harmonize policies and adopt programmes for the joint exploitation of mineral and energy resources; (c) number of river and lake basin organizations established and/or strengthened, as well as the extent to which member States' capacity for water resource management is enhanced; and (d) enumeration of the positive results of the

implementation of the Framework of Action for transport and communications".

Paragraph 14.33

After the third sentence, insert the following sentence: "Efforts will be made to enhance and promote basic education for girls in national education programmes of member States".

Programme 15
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

158. At its 15th meeting, on 16 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

159. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

160. Support was expressed for the programme and especially for the three major themes of regional economic cooperation, poverty alleviation and environment and natural resources development. Satisfaction was expressed regarding the quality of the narrative in the fascicle and the proposed structure of the programme, which comprises seven interdependent and complementary subprogrammes with balanced strategies and expected accomplishments.

161. It was considered necessary to establish a balance between traditional and electronic methods of disseminating information to meet the needs of various countries, in particular, the least developed countries, landlocked countries and island developing countries.

162. There were many best practices in the region to follow and references to them should be included in the paragraphs on strategy, accomplishments and indicators. It was also observed that the words "achieving good governance" should be deleted from paragraph 15.21 (c). Another view was that the words "good governance" should be retained, as they reflected an agreed terminology.

163. It was considered that there may be some duplication of activities between the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and some other organizations and/or programmes of the United Nations system. In this context, the need for improved cooperation and coordination of activities was stressed.

Conclusions and recommendations

164. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

A. *Modifications recommended by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its fifty-sixth session*

Paragraph 15.8

In subparagraph (a), after the words "trade and investment environment", insert the words "as well as developments in information technology".

Paragraph 15.11

In subparagraph (b), after the words "industrial promotion", delete the word "and".

After subparagraph (c), add the following subparagraph: "and (d) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments".

Paragraph 15.12

At the end of the paragraph, insert the words "as well as developments in information technology".

Paragraph 15.13

In subparagraph (b), after the word "globalization", insert the words "and developments in information technology".

In subparagraph (c), after the word "liberalization", insert the words "as well as developments in information technology".

At the end of subparagraph (e), add the following sentence:

"In this connection, emphasis will be placed on analytical work on economic and financial monitoring and surveillance in the region, in close consultation with international and financial institutions, in order to respond in a timely way to new challenges arising from globalization".

Paragraph 15.15

Subparagraph (d) should read: "(d) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments".

Paragraph 15.17

In subparagraph (a), in the first sentence, replace the words "including older persons and people living with disabilities" with the words "with greater focus on people living with disabilities, and including older persons"; and at the end of the subparagraph, replace the words "and accessibility in the physical environments" with the words "by improving access to the physical environment, infrastructure and information technology".

After subparagraph (c), add the following subparagraph:

"(d) The above will be achieved through (i) the promotion of wider information exchange through intergovernmental and expert group meetings, technical publications and increased use of media and information technology; (ii) support for national institution-building initiatives, including human resources development through group training and advisory services; and (iii) the strengthening of regional networks and cooperation, especially with other United Nations and subregional intergovernmental bodies."

Paragraph 15.21

In subparagraph (b), after the words "in 1994", insert the words "the recommendations arising from the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development".

Paragraph 15.24

At the end of subparagraph (c), add the following "and (d) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments".

Paragraph 15.25

After the words "held in June 1997", insert the words "the outcome of the 10-year review of Agenda 21, scheduled to be held in 2002".

Paragraph 15.29

Subparagraph (a) should read: "positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments".

Paragraph 15.34

At the end of subparagraph (f), add the following: "and (g) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments.".

Paragraph 15.38

At the end of subparagraph (d), add the following: "and (e) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments".

B. *Modifications recommended by the Committee*

Paragraph 15.1

In the second sentence, after the words "thus contribute to", insert the words "sustained economic growth and";

Paragraph 15.2

Insert a reference to General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions on integrated follow up to major United Nations conferences, in particular General Assembly resolutions 53/183 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, 54/23 on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, 54/141 on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform of Action, 54/209 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), 54/218 on the implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, 54/224 on the implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing Countries, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/55 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.

Paragraph 15.4

After the words "the sharing of information and experience", insert the words "particularly on the best practices in the region".

Paragraph 15.5

In the first sentence, after the words "island developing countries", insert the words "transit developing countries".

Paragraph 15.13

After subparagraph (a), insert the following subparagraph, and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"(b) To institute a mechanism for monitoring and surveillance of the economic and financial situation of the countries of the region to provide information to members and associate members of ESCAP of an impending crisis in the region;".

In subparagraph (b) (now (a)), after the words "the challenge arising from globalization", insert the words "particularly in the areas of trade, information technology, intellectual property rights and bio-technology".

In subparagraph (c) (now (d)), after the words "Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s", insert the words "and also the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

At the end of subparagraph (d) (now (e)), replace the words "aid donors" with the words "development partners".

Paragraph 15.16

After the words "World Summit for Social Development", insert the words "and its review outcome".

Paragraph 15.20

Replace the words "the alleviation of poverty" with the words "the eradication of poverty".

Paragraph 15.21

In subparagraph (b), replace the words "policies and programmes for alleviating poverty" with the words "policies and programmes for eradicating poverty"; after the words "held at Cairo in 1994", insert the words "and its review outcome";

In subparagraph (c), delete the words "achieving good governance and"; and replace the words "poverty alleviation" with the words "poverty eradication".

At the end of subparagraph (d), insert the words "and its review outcome".

Paragraph 15.36

At the end of subparagraph (a), insert the words "including through networking of national, subregional and regional information systems".

Programme 16
Economic development in Europe

165. At its 15th meeting, on 16 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

166. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 16 and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

167. Support was expressed for the activities of the programme for economic development in Europe.

168. It was noted that the overall orientation of the programme was well balanced and the priorities well reflected. Appreciation was expressed for the reform process of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and for efforts by ECE to avoid duplication and to develop an intersectoral approach to its activities. These efforts could be more clearly reflected in the indicators of achievements. The view was expressed that the number of road and rail links newly built or upgraded could not be accepted as an indicator of achievement of the activities of ECE, under subprogramme 2. Satisfaction was expressed with the focus of the programme on countries with economies in transition and on related integration efforts in the region.

Conclusions and recommendations

169. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed medium-term plan, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 16.4

The paragraph should read:

"Gender-mainstreaming and the involvement of the business community are cross-sectoral concerns that are integral parts of ECE strategic directions. The Plan of Action stipulates that mainstreaming the gender perspective and the involvement of the business community must permeate all ECE activities, and all principal subsidiary bodies will therefore take this into account when they prepare, adopt and implement their programmes of work."

Paragraph 16.15

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "through the timely presentation of statistics".

Paragraph 16.20

Replace the words "the level of" with the words "the ECE contribution to".

Paragraph 16.28

After the words "increased harmonization of", insert the words "internationally agreed".

Paragraph 16.30

After the word "investment", add the words "enterprise activities".

Paragraph 16.33

In subparagraph (f), replace the words "increased trade in" with the words "new and updated international standards and recommendations on".

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

170. At its 16th meeting, on 19 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 17)).

171. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 17 and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

172. Support was expressed for the programme. It was considered that the proposed programme described the essential steps which needed to be taken in order to face the challenges of economic and social development in the region. In the interest of avoiding duplication and waste, however, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) should focus in areas where its comparative advantages were strong.

173. The change in the ECLAC organizational structure was welcomed, as was its proposed subprogramme structure. The mainstreaming of the gender perspective in regional development was also welcomed.

174. It was stated that adequate reference to major international conferences should have been included in the overall orientation of the programme.

175. It was felt that the narrative of some subprogrammes was short and did not indicate how the Commission would carry out its activities. There should have been adequate references to measures for the promotion of investment and financing and the problems of external debt. It was also observed that the approach to drug production and trafficking should have been more comprehensive and the programme should have taken into account the relationship between drugs and crime, incorporating in the strategy an integrated approach to crime and drug issues. Furthermore, the challenges arising from privatization and deregulation of economic activities, and the regulatory role of the State in controlling or monitoring the unfavourable impact of liberalization with a view to protecting consumers, especially vulnerable groups, was not adequately reflected.

176. It was emphasized that ECLAC should endeavour to present more projects to be funded by the Development Account for the benefit of the region.

Conclusions and recommendations

177. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly adopt programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan for the period 2000-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 17.7

After the words "in its efforts", insert the words "to enhance early warning response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises and".

Paragraph 17.8

Replace the word "natural" with the word "national".

Paragraph 17.9

Replace the words "eminent persons" with the words "Member States".

Paragraph 17.16

At the end of the second sentence, insert the following: "to the compatibility between economic policy (fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies) and the structural reforms that are being implemented in the region and the new types of external constraints that could result from financial globalization; to helping Member States to formulate international and regional strategies to solve the problems stemming from external indebtedness; and to supporting the design and implementation of policies to strengthen domestic capacities to generate financial resources for investment, establishing appropriate institutions and instruments for channelling such resources into capital accumulation and facilitating the acceleration of the accumulation process".

Paragraph 17.20

At the beginning of the third sentence, insert the words "In the context of an international integrated approach to the problems of drugs".

In the last sentence, at the beginning of the sentence, insert the words "International and regional cooperation and"; and after the word "alternative", insert the words "and non-discriminatory".

Paragraph 17.22

At the beginning of subparagraph (d), insert the words "strengthening of international and regional cooperation and".

After subparagraph (d), add the following subparagraph: "(e) strengthening the capacity of Member States of the region to manage and mitigate the adverse social impacts of structural adjustment measures as well as the challenges of globalization problems to their economies".

Paragraph 17.26

In the fourth sentence, replace the words "gender equity" with the words "gender equality".

Paragraph 17.35

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph: "(f) the need to continue the work of the programme in the improvement of the regulatory function of the State in promoting the efficient operation of market mechanisms, among other regulatory functions of the State which remain valid in the regional context".

Paragraph 17.39

Delete the fifth sentence. In the following sentence, before the words "reciprocal relationships", insert the words "to assist Member States to better understand the possible".

Paragraph 17.48

Delete the sixth sentence.

Paragraph 17.54

After the words "institutional capacity", insert the words "as well as economic, technical and financial capacities".

Replace the words "the adverse consequences" with the words "any adverse consequences".

Paragraph 17.58

In subparagraph (a), replace the words "both the public and private sectors" with the words "the public sector".

In subparagraph (a), replace the words "in a manner consistent with progress in hemispheric integration" with the words "taking into account existing regional efforts".

After subparagraph (a), insert the following subparagraph and renumber the subsequent subparagraph accordingly: "(b) improved economic, technical and financial capacity of the countries of the region".

After subparagraph (b) (now (c)), insert subparagraph 17.59 (c), renumbered accordingly.

Paragraph 17.59

Delete subparagraph (c) (now subparagraph 17.58 (d)).

Legislative mandates

Under programme 17, insert the following General Assembly resolution:

"53/172 The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries (subprogrammes 1 and 10)"

and under subprogramme 10, delete the following General Assembly resolution:

"53/172 The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries"

Programme 18
Economic and social development in Western Asia

178. At its 25th meeting, on 26 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

179. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

180. Support was expressed for the programme.

181. Concern was expressed on some formulations in the programme. It was observed that the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) was neither qualified nor authorized to pass judgement on member States. This needed to be revised to bring the narrative in line with the mandate of ESCWA.

182. It was stressed that there was no legislative agreement on the concept of good governance. As a result, no reference to this concept should have been included in the document.

183. It was stated that the indicators of achievement did not clearly reflect the priorities of the programme. They should have placed emphasis on the issues of water and energy. It was noted that the indicators of achievement appeared to focus more on measuring the performance of Member States than the performance of ESCWA.

Conclusions and recommendations

184. **The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed medium-term plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Paragraph 18.2

In the third sentence, replace the words "to foster the adoption and adaptation of global principles, standards and trends" with the words "to keep member countries informed of standards and trends with a view to their possible adoption and adaptation".

Paragraph 18.3

In subparagraph (b), replace the words "Cultivating the interest of member States in the advantages of regional cooperation and coordination in developing concerted policies" with the words "Supporting all efforts and initiatives by member countries aiming at achieving more regional cooperation and coordination as well as cultivating their interest in developing concerted policies".

Paragraph 18.11

In the second sentence, replace the words "rights-based" with the words "right to development-based".

In the third sentence, delete the words "as an early-warning system for the social sector, and"; and replace the words "development process" with the words "social development process".

Replace the fourth and fifth sentences with the following sentence: "ESCWA members have to grapple with social problems, such as disproportionate income distribution, poverty, unbalanced provision of basic social services, illiteracy, health deficiencies, urbanization and population movements, especially of refugees and the displaced, and limited participation of women in the development process".

Delete the following two sentences.

In the next (penultimate) sentence, delete the words "at the regional level".

Paragraph 18.12

In the second sentence, after the words "civil society", add the words "at the regional level".

Replace the fifth sentence with the following sentences: "Particular attention will be paid to poverty alleviation and productive employment, while emphasizing the family as a basic unit for social cohesion. In addition, transparent and accountable governance, human rights, in particular the right to development, will be emphasized as means of promoting sustainable human development".

In the last sentence, replace the words "by advocating a rights-based approach to gender equity and equality in the region and mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies, plans and programmes" with the words "by advocating a gender equity and equality-based approach in the region, including mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies, plans and programmes".

Paragraph 18.13

In subparagraph (a), after the word "underscoring", add the word "national".

In subparagraph (b), after the words "civil society", add the words "at the regional level".

In subparagraph (c), after the words "machinery of", add the word "national".

Paragraph 18.14

In subparagraph (a), replace the words "officially adopting social policies" with the words "adopting national social policies".

In subparagraph (b), after the words "civil society", add the words "at the national level".

In subparagraph (c), after the word "using", add the word "national".

Paragraph 18.16

In the third sentence, replace the word "good" with the words "transparent and accountable".

Paragraph 18.25

Replace the words "coordinate the development of statistics" with the words "promote the development of statistics at the national level and coordinate them at the regional level".

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and regional".

Paragraph 18.30

After the words "civil society institutions", add the words "at the regional level".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 1, add the following mandate:

"Commission on Sustainable Development decision

6/1 Strategic approaches to freshwater management"

Programme 19
Human rights

185. At its 17th meeting, on 19 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 19, Human rights, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 19)).

186. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

[See part two, chap. II, paras. 42-48]

Conclusions and recommendations

187. The Committee decided to resume consideration of this programme during the second part of its fortieth session (see part two, chap. II, para. 49).

Programme 20
Humanitarian assistance

188. At its 19th meeting, held on 20 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 20, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 20)).

189. The Emergency Relief Coordinator, a.i., introduced programme 20 and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

190. Strong support was expressed for the work of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, especially the continued evolution of its activities through the coordination and provision of humanitarian assistance. The role of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) was commended and recent efforts to strengthen the Office were welcomed.

191. It was stressed that humanitarian assistance activities must be carried out in strict compliance with the principles established in General Assembly resolution 46/182. Emphasis was placed on the need for full observance of the principles of impartiality and neutrality in the provision of humanitarian assistance. Respect for

national sovereignty was underlined, as was the primacy of the role of the affected countries in humanitarian assistance activities.

192. It was stated that there was no mandate for the integration of humanitarian assistance with political and peacekeeping initiatives, nor was it a part of the guiding principles established by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/182. In this connection, reference was also made to agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council.

Conclusions and recommendations

193. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly adopt programme 20, Humanitarian assistance, of the medium-term plan for the period 2000-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 20.1

In the second sentence, replace the word "reconfirmed" with the words "reaffirms the guiding principles of humanitarian assistance".

Paragraph 20.2

Replace the words "principles and concerns" with the word "issues".

Paragraph 20.3

The paragraph should read:

"The objective of this subprogramme is to ensure an effective international response to situations calling for humanitarian assistance."

Paragraph 20.4

In the second sentence, replace the words "humanitarian issues" with the words "humanitarian assistance issues".

Replace the third sentence with the following sentence: "It will also support and promote the efforts of Governments of affected countries, upon their request, and that of other agencies, with the approval of the Government concerned, to assist and protect internally displaced persons".

In the fourth sentence replace the words "humanitarian operations" with the words "humanitarian assistance activities".

In the fifth sentence, replace the words "past humanitarian operations" with the words "past experience"; and replace the words "future humanitarian operations" with the words "future humanitarian assistance activities".

At the end of the last sentence, add the words "and should conduct regular briefings to Member States on its activities".

Paragraph 20.5

Delete the words "and protection".

Paragraph 20.6

Delete the words "the adoption of policy measures by United Nations legislative bodies"; and replace the final clause with the following clause: "and strengthening of inter-agency coordination and cooperation on country-specific issues through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee".

Paragraph 20.7

Replace the word "partners" with the words "other relevant organizations".

Paragraph 20.8

In the second sentence, replace the words "humanitarian action plans" with the words "humanitarian assistance plans, where appropriate".

The last sentence should read: "The Emergency Liaison Branch will offer the United Nations system information and advice on a timely basis with respect to humanitarian assistance activities, in strict conformity with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality, as contained in the provisions of General Assembly resolution 46/182. If the provision of humanitarian assistance is a mandated task of a United Nations peacekeeping operation, both should be coordinated to ensure that they are not working at cross-purposes and that the impartiality of humanitarian assistance is ensured."

Paragraph 20.9

Delete the words "more effective information flow among political, peacekeeping, development and humanitarian elements of the United Nations system".

Paragraphs 20.11-20.14

Subprogramme 3 should read:

"Subprogramme 3
Natural disaster reduction

"Objective

"20.11 The objective of this subprogramme is to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters and to ensure an effective international response to natural disasters, through the implementation of coherent policies in this regard.

"Strategy

"20.12 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, which is under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/219, the secretariat

would support the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, whose mandate is to undertake during 2000-2001 a review of the future arrangements for disaster reduction. The Task Force would provide expert advice to the secretariat and convene ad hoc meetings of experts on issues related to disaster reduction.

"20.13 The secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction would serve as the focal point for the coordination of strategies and programmes for disaster reduction and ensure synergy between these and the socio-economic and humanitarian domains. It would also serve as a clearing house for information exchange and dissemination, including the dissemination of listing of organizations of the United Nations system, as well as impartial humanitarian organizations that provide emergency humanitarian response to natural disasters at all levels, with updated inventories of available resources to help deal with natural disasters. It will also backstop the activities of national committees. As an interdisciplinary forum for advancing disaster reduction and implementing the International Strategy, the Task Force would serve as the forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for the reduction of natural hazards, and identify gaps in disaster reduction policies and programmes and would recommend remedial action. The priorities, as identified by the Task Force, include: (a) early warning of natural disasters; (b) capacity building in developing countries; (c) mainstreaming disaster reduction into sustainable development; and (d) the application of science and technology in disaster prevention.

"20.14 In addition, activities under this subprogramme would focus on increasing public awareness of the risks that natural, technological and environmental hazards pose to modern societies. It that regard, it would endeavour to obtain commitment by public authorities to reduce the risks to people, their livelihoods, social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources. The subprogramme would also engage public participation at all levels of implementation so as to create disaster-resistant communities through increased partnerships and expanded risk reduction networks at all levels. Efforts would also be directed to strengthening the operational capacities of developing countries in the fields of disaster prevention, mitigation, and preparedness through international development cooperation and technical cooperation, in particular through the activities of the United Nations Development Programme.

"Expected accomplishments

"20.15 Expected accomplishments would include increased capacity of developing countries for preparedness in disaster prevention and mitigation, including increase in participation in disaster reduction related training and seminars; expanded scientific and technical knowledge about reducing vulnerability to natural disaster; increased public awareness of the risks associated with natural,

technological and environmental hazards; and a better mobilization of international support in order to help in the prevention, management and rehabilitation in natural disasters.

"Indicator of achievement

"20.16 Indicators of achievement would include an increase in the number of countries having the technical capacity to deal with disaster prevention and mitigation; improved early-warning processes for natural, technological and environmental disasters; an increase in the number of risk-reduction networks; increased participation in training seminars on disaster prevention; and enhanced mobilization of international support in order to help in the prevention, management and rehabilitation of natural disasters."

Paragraph 20.15

After the words "disaster relief assistance", insert the words "upon request of the Member States concerned".

Paragraph 20.16

In subparagraph (f), delete the words "after earthquakes".

Paragraph 20.17

The paragraph should read:

"Expected accomplishments would include a more timely alleviation of the suffering caused by natural disasters and environmental emergencies, including technological accidents, and increased capacity of developing countries to deal with disaster relief."

Paragraph 20.18

After the words "Indicators of achievement would include", insert the words "more timely delivery of assistance to victims of natural disasters and environmental emergencies, including technological accidents".

Paragraph 20.19

Replace the words "humanitarian principles and concerns" with the words "humanitarian assistance issues".

Paragraph 20.20

The seventh sentence should read: "With regard to humanitarian emergencies, the Branch will provide appropriate early information in regard to preventive and preparedness measures".

Paragraph 20.21

Replace the words "compliance with humanitarian principles and increased understanding of humanitarian concerns" with the words "understanding of humanitarian issues".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 1, insert the following General Assembly resolutions:

"54/98 Participation of volunteers, 'White Helmets', in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

54/167 Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons"

Under subprogramme 2, insert the following General Assembly resolution:

"54/97 Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster"

Programme 21
Protection of and assistance to refugees

194. At its 19th meeting, on 20 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 21, Protection of and assistance to refugees, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

195. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

196. Strong support was expressed for the programme and satisfaction was expressed with the focus of the programme on addressing the particular needs and capacities of refugee women and children and elderly refugees. Appreciation was also expressed for the emphasis placed on the development of options to ensure the security and the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements. It was also stressed that the programme should give priority to the permanent solution of refugees' problems through their repatriation and reintegration into their countries of origin, and to that end, concrete expected accomplishments and indicators of achievements should be formulated.

197. It was observed that some expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement could be better formulated to complement each other.

Conclusions and recommendations

198. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 21, Protection of and assistance to refugees, of the

proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 21.1

In the first sentence, replace the words "provide them with humanitarian assistance" with the words "ensure the provision of humanitarian assistance to them".

Paragraph 21.2

In the second sentence, replace the words "provide assistance to returnees" with the words "ensure that returnees receive assistance to help their sustainable reintegration".

Paragraph 21.5

In subparagraph (d), replace the words "The provision of" with the words "Ensuring that UNHCR and its partners provide".

In subparagraph (e), replace the words "The incorporation" with the words "Ensuring that UNHCR and its partners incorporate".

At the end of subparagraph (f), insert the following sentence: "In this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials, in the conduct of their duties, to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization".

After subparagraph (g), insert the following subparagraph: "(h) The involvement as soon as possible of other humanitarian organizations, both national and international, in providing humanitarian assistance for refugees and other persons of concern."

Paragraph 21.9

In subparagraph (d), after the words "approaches to", insert the words "preventing and".

Paragraph 21.10

In subparagraph (b), replace the word "people" with the words "refugees and other persons of concern".

At the beginning of subparagraph (c), insert the words "The reduction in".

After subparagraph (c), insert the following subparagraph: "(d) The reduction in the number of refugee women and children and elderly refugees whose basic protection needs are not met".

Paragraph 21.11

Replace the word "provide" with the words "ensure the provision of".

Paragraph 21.13

After the fifth sentence, insert the following sentence: "UNHCR will work to maximize the involvement of other humanitarian organizations, both national and international, in the provision of humanitarian assistance to refugees and other persons of concern, as appropriate".

Paragraph 21.16

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) Improve operational cooperation with the relevant host Governments and increased collaborative ventures with intergovernmental agencies having complementary mandates and with non-governmental organizations, with UNHCR strengthening cooperation with these organizations in providing humanitarian assistance where appropriate".

Paragraph 21.17

After subparagraph (c), insert the following subparagraph:

"(d) The number of refugees assisted and repatriated."

Programme 22
Palestine refugees

199. At its 20th meeting, on 21 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 22, Palestine refugees, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

200. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

201. Support was expressed for the programme. It was observed that the proposed medium-term plan was well designed and addressed the important role of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in addressing the problems of Palestine refugees. The plan's overall orientation, objectives, strategy, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement were welcomed. Appreciation was expressed for the work of UNRWA. The inclusion of facilitation of self-reliance among Palestine refugees and expansion of income-generating opportunities among the objectives of the plan was also welcomed.

202. Concern was expressed regarding the adequacy of the resources available to enable UNRWA to continue its work. Support was expressed for making additional resources available to UNRWA. It was stated that the international community, including the private sector, should be encouraged to work with UNRWA to expand its donor base.

203. The efforts of UNRWA to streamline its operations and to achieve cost savings through productivity gains were welcomed. However, it was observed that UNRWA had already reached a point where further cutbacks were no longer possible.

Conclusions and recommendations

204. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 22, Palestine refugees, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modification:

Paragraph 22.10

Delete the paragraph, and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Programme 23
Public information

205. At its 20th and 21st meetings, on 21 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 23, Public information, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

206. The Under-Secretary-General for Public Information introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

207. Support was expressed for the goals and objectives of the programme, and the importance of a wide dissemination of information was emphasized. It was stressed that public information activities of the Organization were very important for enabling people everywhere to understand and learn about the role and objectives of the United Nations.

208. The view was expressed that, given the disparities among countries with regard to technological capabilities, radio broadcasting was one of the most important media for reaching a wide audience, especially in developing countries.

209. It was underscored that United Nations information centres played an important role in disseminating information on the role and the activities of the Organization, in particular at the local and regional levels. In that connection, the view was expressed that the review on their possible integration with other United Nations system field offices should take into account the experience of the integrated centres as well as the agreement of the host countries. It was also stressed that any integration must ensure that the Department of Public Information is able to carry out its mission effectively.

Conclusions and recommendations

210. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 23, Public information, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 23.2

In the second sentence, replace the word "galvanize" with the word "promote".

In the third sentence, after the word "media", insert the words "governmental and".

The last sentence should read: "Particular attention will be given to the areas of special interest to developing countries, in particular, the special needs of African countries and the least developed countries, keeping in view that most developing countries are not fully benefiting from the information revolution, and that the information technology gap is widening, and where appropriate, other countries with economies in transition in order to contribute to bridging the gap between developing and developed countries the field of public information and communications".

Paragraph 23.5

In the last sentence, replace the words "international news editors" with the words "interested mass media".

Paragraph 23.5

In the second sentence, after the word "accuracy", insert the words "timeliness, non-selectivity".

Paragraph 23.8

At the end of the first sentence, insert the words "without prejudice to the traditional distribution of printed publications".

At the end of the last sentence, insert the words "as well as multilateral development issues, disarmament, eradication of the AIDS pandemic, dialogue among civilizations and natural disasters".

Paragraph 23.9

At the end of the first sentence, add the words "in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly".

Paragraph 23.10

In the first sentence, after the words "*inter alia*", insert the words "through the traditional way of publication, and".

Paragraph 23.11

In the first sentence, after the words "press releases", insert the words "the creation of special pages on the United Nations web site".

In the first sentence, after the word "briefings", insert the words "on United Nations activities"; and replace the words "the training of broadcasters and journalists from developing countries" with the words "the training of broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition".

After the first sentence, insert the following two sentences: "The Department will ensure the appropriate use of information materials and continuous refinement of the activities aimed at promoting the work of the Organization. To accomplish this, there will be regular, systematic

evaluation and review of information materials and activities in view of the specific objectives for which they were designed".

Paragraph 23.12

At the end of the paragraph, add the following words: "stronger partnerships between the Organization and various institutions of civil society would be created; faster and more effective flow of information through greater use of the latest communications technology, including the Internet, would be accomplished; and partnerships within the United Nations system and with organizations and institutions outside the system would be enhanced".

Paragraph 23.13

Between the word "increase" and the words "in the level of interest", insert the words "in the coverage of United Nations activities by newspapers, radio, television and relevant Internet sites worldwide and in".

Paragraph 23.16

After the paragraph, insert the following paragraph:

"23.16 *bis*. In order to ensure adequate dissemination of objective information about peacekeeping operations and humanitarian assistance missions, an effective information capacity will be developed."

Paragraph 23.17

After the second sentence, insert the following sentence: "The Department, in the light of the experiences from the pilot project for the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity and the decision thereon by Member States, will study the enhancement of its broadcasting capacity."

Paragraph 23.17

After the paragraph, insert the following paragraph:

"23.17 *bis*. United Nations information centres will continue to remain an important conduit in the dissemination of information for a cross-section of people in Member States, particularly in the developing countries. In that context, the Department will consult Member States in which United Nations information centres were merged or closed, with a view to reviving those centres, as appropriate."

Paragraph 23.18

After the first sentence, insert the following sentence: "In this regard, the Department will continue its work for achieving modular parity among the six official languages."

In the second (now third) sentence, after the words "web site", insert the word "also".

Paragraph 23.20

At the end of the paragraph, add the words: "particularly of key audiences about peacekeeping operations; greater and faster access for media and other audiences to news emanating from the United Nations; a fuller news service through the further development and enhancement of the existing *Daily Highlights*; strengthened capacity of the Department for a rapid media response; capacity for effective delivery of high-quality audio, photo and video on demand; strengthened cooperation with international radio and television broadcasters for the coverage of United Nations activities; and development of an effective information capacity".

Paragraph 23.21

After the words "geographical spread", insert the following words: "; an increase in factual, positive portrayals of the Organization's activities by mass media, including radio, television, newspapers and such evolving tools as the Internet; review of the cases of United Nations information centres, where those were merged or closed, in consultation with concerned Member States".

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "enhanced effectiveness of information capabilities in the field of peacekeeping operations".

Paragraph 23.28

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and greater coordination among the depository libraries, information centres and United Nations system field offices".

Paragraph 23.29

At the end of the paragraph, add the following: "and to develop support for the Organization. The Department will improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the Organization's publication and distribution processes".

Programme 24
Management and central support services

211. At its 21st meeting, on 21 June 2000, the Committee considered programme 24, Management and central support services, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 24)).

212. The Under-Secretary-General for Management introduced programme 24 and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

213. Support was expressed for the programme. The importance of expanding use of information technology in management of the Organization was welcomed and emphasized.

214. Efforts for enhancing and expanding the system of common services between the United Nations and the organizations of the United Nations system were noted and supported. The strengthening and expansion of common and joint services should be geared towards greater efficiency in delivery of mandated activities.

215. The Secretariat should ensure that objectives were achieved according to guidelines established by the General Assembly and resolutions of other legislative bodies on the basis of existing regulations.

216. The delegation of authority relating to human resources management to the heads of departments and offices should be accompanied by clear accountability requirements in accordance with the General Assembly resolutions on human resources management reform and existing regulations and rules.

Conclusions and recommendations

217. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly the approval of programme 24, Management and central support services, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 24.1

In the last sentence, insert the resolution numbers "52/220, 53/221" between the resolution numbers "52/12 A and B" and the words "and other relevant resolutions".

Paragraph 24.2

At the end of the first sentence, after the resolution number "52/220", add the words "and other relevant resolutions and decisions".

In the third sentence, between the word "continue" and the words "in particular", insert the words "whenever possible and without adversely affecting the overall quality of services to be provided".

Paragraph 24.5

In the second sentence, after the words "integrated approach to", insert the words "implementing of relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions and to".

Paragraph 24.6

Delete the words "the limited".

Paragraph 24.7

Replace the words "provide programme managers with the authority that they need to deliver effectively" with the words "ensure that programme managers effectively implement".

Paragraph 24.8

Between the words "expressed by" and the word "users" insert the words "the General Assembly and".

Paragraph 24.10

In the second sentence, between the word "compliance" and the words "by the Secretariat", insert the words "and administration".

The third sentence should read: "The translation of legislative mandates into plans and programme budgets and the application of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation for the regular budget, peacekeeping operation budgets, international tribunal budgets and extrabudgetary resources will be further improved to facilitate the effective management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Organization's activities and resources".

In the fourth sentence, replace the words "from within its available resources" with the words "in full compliance with Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization".

Paragraph 24.11

In the first sentence, replace the words "stricter compliance" with the words "better implementation".

At the end of the first sentence, add the words "and General Assembly resolutions and decisions".

In the second sentence, replace the word "better" with the words "effective and efficient".

Paragraph 24.12

After subparagraph (c), add the following subparagraph:

"(d) Improved application of the Financial Regulations and Rules, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and other approved budgetary procedures and guidelines for the regular budget, peacekeeping budgets, and extrabudgetary resources and budgets of Tribunals, in accordance and in full compliance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions."

Paragraph 24.13

Replace the word "implement" with the words "continue to develop"; and replace the words "system of human resources management" with the words "quality human resources management system".

Paragraph 24.14

In the first sentence, replace the words "at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi" with the words "away from Headquarters".

In the second sentence, between the word "comprehensive" and the words "and systematic", insert the word "expeditious".

In the third sentence, replace the words "Gradual delegation to the heads of departments and offices of the administration functions relating to human resources management will continue" with the words "In order to delegate authority to the heads of departments and offices for the administrative functions relating to human resources management, a well designed mechanism of accountability would be put in place in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/221".

Before the last sentence, insert the following sentence: "The Office will ensure full compliance with the General Assembly resolutions and decisions on human resources management".

Paragraph 24.15

Delete the last sentence.

Paragraph 24.16

After subparagraph (d), add the following subparagraphs:

"(e) Establishment of a proper system of accountability, transparency and responsibility, as well as improvement of the existing system of administration of justice, as an integral part of human resources management reform process;"

"(f) Effective implementation of relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions on human resources management."

Paragraph 24.17

In the first sentence, replace the words "and cost-effective" with the words "effective and high quality".

Paragraph 24.20

In the first sentence, between the word "simplified" and the words "and more effective", insert the word "transparent".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 1, insert the following General Assembly resolution:

"54/249 Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001"

Under subprogramme 3, insert the following General Assembly resolutions:

"51/226 Human resources management

53/221 Human resources management

54/249 Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001"

Programme 25
Internal oversight

218. At its 21st meeting, on 21 June 2000, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on programme 25, Internal oversight, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 25)).

219. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

220. Support was expressed for the programme. Satisfaction was expressed at the clear and concise drafting of the medium-term plan for the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

221. It was observed that some subprogrammes needed improvement to appropriately reflect the role and functions of the Office. It was recalled that in its resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244, the General Assembly had clearly stated the purpose and functions of the Office. Some formulations in the programme did not seem to be in conformity with the mandate of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

222. Concern was expressed that the indicators of achievement in all four subprogrammes did not reflect the expected accomplishments of programme 25, Internal oversight, but rather the expected accomplishments of other programmes. The indicators of achievement should not be limited to quantitative measurement but should also include the quality of evaluation recommendations and focus on the effects on efficiency and effectiveness of the programmes and activities.

Conclusions and recommendations

223. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve programme 25, Internal oversight, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 25.1

At the end of the third sentence, add the words "relevant Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation".

In the third sentence, delete the reference to General Assembly resolutions 53/207 and 54/236.

At the end of the final sentence, replace the words "the scope of whose oversight responsibilities covers the resources and staff of the United Nations" with the words "which assists the Secretary-General in fulfilling his internal oversight responsibilities in respect of the resources and staff of the Organization".

Paragraph 25.2

In the first sentence, replace the words "the need for the Organization to ensure greater compliance with resolutions, regulations, rules and policies" with the words "the need to help Member States and the Organization ensure that programme activities comply with resolutions, regulations, rules and policies".

In the first sentence, after the words "better results achieved", insert the words "determining all factors affecting the efficient and effective implementation of programmes".

Paragraph 25.5

In subparagraph (a), delete the words "relevance" and "impact".

In subparagraph (b), delete the words "by altering their content and, if necessary, reviewing their objectives".

Paragraph 25.6

In the second sentence, after the words "The Unit will conduct evaluations that", insert the words "facilitate the intergovernmental bodies to".

In the third sentence, after the word "effectiveness", insert the word "implementation".

Paragraph 25.7

After the word "improvements", insert the words "in helping intergovernmental organs in determining".

Paragraph 25.8

The paragraph should read:

"Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The number of approved evaluation recommendations by pertinent intergovernmental bodies implemented by programme managers;

(b) Better coordination with external oversight bodies;

(c) The quality of evaluation recommendations which contribute to make a better analysis of the implementation and effectiveness of programmes by intergovernmental bodies;

(d) The quality and extent of self-evaluations conducted by programme managers."

Paragraph 25.10

Towards the end of the second sentence, replace the word "stewardship" with the word "management".

Paragraph 25.12

Subparagraph (b) should read: "(b) a more effective use of the financial resources in order to guarantee the implementation of programmes and mandates and more effective procedures".

After subparagraph (c), add the following subparagraph: "(d) Better coordination with external oversight bodies".

Paragraph 25.13

The paragraph should read:

"The objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen the implementation of the programmes by monitoring programme delivery and output, to determine whether they are adequate, timely and in accordance with the mandates, that they address effectively the objectives of the programmes and that resources are used efficiently".

Paragraph 25.14

In the second sentence, after the words "progress made towards achieving", add the words "the objectives and".

Paragraph 25.14

In the second sentence, replace the word "commitments" with the word "objectives".

Paragraph 25.15

The paragraph should read:

"Expected accomplishments would include more effective monitoring by programme managers of implementation of activities and reporting thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee for Programme and Coordination; and more timely programme delivery".

Paragraph 25.16

At the end of the paragraph, add the words: "and submission of reports in a timely manner in accordance with Rule 6.3 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation".

Paragraph 25.18

The final sentence should read: "In addition and in case of need and when appropriate, the Section will provide investigative services to the funds and programmes of the United Nations".

Paragraph 25.20

After the words "Indicators of achievement would include", insert the words "a better quality of investigation functions in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244".

C. Evaluation

1. Strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives

224. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 5 and 6 June 2000, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/55/63).

225. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report and the representatives of the Secretary-General responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

226. It was stated that the report should have been more analytical and qualitative in nature, and should have shown how evaluations were being utilized within the United Nations. Details of the evaluations mentioned, with specific examples of results and how the evaluations were carried out, including the impact of their results on programme design, delivery and policy directives, would have been useful. The sections on General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services and support services and the evaluations conducted within the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean were noted as examples of analytical discussions of evaluations which included the impact and contributions that they made.

227. The wide range of types of evaluation within various organizational entities was noted, reflecting the diversity of the organizations and activities themselves.

228. It was also observed that future evaluation reports should show the impact of budget restrictions on reform measures on programme design, delivery and policy directives, and should contain proposals for improving evaluation and its role in the integrated management cycle conceived in the programme planning regulations and rules. In this regard, it was noted that the role of the programme performance report should not be duplicated.

229. It was stated that, in the conclusion of the report, the observation that evaluations had improved significantly compared to that described two years ago was incorrect; the objective of evaluation as stated in article VII, regulation 7.1, of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation

(ST/SGB/2000/8) was not being fulfilled by the current system of evaluation in the United Nations. The solution was found to be in regulation 7.3 of these regulations and rules, in which it was suggested that external evaluations could be conducted by bodies such as the Joint Inspection Unit, or by other external independent bodies devoted to evaluation.

Conclusions and recommendations

230. The Committee emphasized that the role of evaluation is becoming increasingly important.

231. The Committee recommended that future reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the subject should be more analytical, evaluate whether the evaluation function was being effectively carried out in the Secretariat and consider how it might be improved, in particular in order to strengthen the role of evaluation in programme design, delivery and policy directives, in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

232. The Committee stressed the need for the internal evaluation system to benefit from the work done by the existing external evaluation mechanisms in order to allow for more effective, independent and critical evaluation.

233. The Committee welcomed the training activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on evaluation and encouraged their future development.

234. The Committee decided that:

(a) The topics for in-depth evaluation in 2001 would be sustainable development and population;

(b) The topics for in-depth evaluation in 2002 would be General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs and Economic and Social Council support and coordination and Legal Affairs.

235. The Committee emphasized that the evaluation reports should be submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and 54/244 of 23 December 1999.

2. In-depth evaluation of global development trends, issues and policies, and global approaches to social and microeconomic issues and policies, and the corresponding subprogrammes in the regional commissions

236. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 5 and 6 June 2000, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of global development trends, issues and policies, and global approaches to social and microeconomic issues and policies, and the corresponding subprogrammes in the regional commissions (E/AC.51/2000/2).

237. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. The representative of the Secretary-General responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

238. It was observed that the dissemination of socio-economic analysis was important and that the use of traditional means, such as the dissemination of printed material, briefings by Secretariat officials and radio broadcasts, should be continued and strengthened. New means of communication, as exemplified by the financing for development web site, were useful in facilitating an exchange of information in this field and the Secretariat should give them adequate attention.

239. It was noted that recurrent publications had, in the past, not made a major input to intergovernmental processes, and that a number of them had been significantly reformulated. It was hoped that, with the changes made, those publications would contribute to the ongoing follow-up to the major United Nations conferences. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs needed to strengthen analysis of long-term trends in the global economy.

240. The view was expressed that the potential for coordination was not fully realized and that the flow of information between the regional and the global programmes needed to be improved. It was observed that better coordination among the regional programmes themselves and with the global programmes might lead to a more effective use of resources.

241. Concerns were expressed regarding the decrease of resources allocated to the analysis of socio-economic development trends in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The view was expressed that, based on such findings, OIOS should have formulated recommendations for consideration by the Committee under the relevant items of its agenda.

242. On the lack of specialized intergovernmental guidance provided to subprogramme 28.7, representatives had expected to find specific recommendations in the report to address that problem.

Conclusions and recommendations

243. The Committee recommended approval of the recommendations in the report, subject to the following observations:

Recommendation 1

The value of the *World Economic and Social Survey* as a reference tool should be preserved.

Recommendation 3

It was not clear how this recommendation would be implemented.

The Secretary-General should ensure that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs developed adequate capacity for the implementation of relevant intergovernmental mandates.

Recommendations 4 and 5

These should not have included language on the availability of resources. The importance of the activities recommended should be the primary consideration.

Recommendation 6

Dissemination by network of experts should be complementary to other means of dissemination.

244. The Committee recommended that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs take measures to review its capacity to carry out in a better manner the analysis of socio-economic development trends.

3. In-depth evaluation of the advancement of women programme

245. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 5 and 6 June 2000, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the advancement of women programme (E/AC.51/2000/3).

246. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report and the representative of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

247. It was observed that parts of the report were overly descriptive and should have been more analytical. It was, however, noted that the report was comprehensive, broad in scope and informative. The report also provided a fair assessment of the various activities making up the programme and of the programme's achievements and limitations, including resource constraints.

248. The leadership of the programme was praised, particularly for its role in organizing the review and appraisal of the Fourth World Conference on Women. The importance of gender mainstreaming in programme budgeting was noted and, in particular, its relevance for the next medium-term plan.

249. Concern was expressed about the fact that the report failed to address the issue of resources constraints.

250. The view was expressed that there was still a need for printed publications to be distributed through traditional channels, as not all users who required information had access to web sites through the Internet.

251. It was noted that, owing to time constraints, not all non-governmental organizations had been able to address the Commission. Some non-governmental organizations had unrealistic expectations and had unfairly blamed the Division for the Advancement of Women for not being allowed to speak before the Commission.

252. It was noted that it was already an obligation of all non-governmental organizations to translate their reports into the working languages of the United Nations. It was also noted that the reports scheduled for discussion by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women were listed in the *Journal of the United Nations*.

253. During the consideration of recommendation 10 (b), the need to verify its harmony with established rules and procedures regulating the participation of non-governmental organizations in intergovernmental deliberations was observed.

Conclusions and recommendations

254. The Committee agreed on the continued importance and relevance of the advancement of women programme.

255. The Committee recommended approval of recommendations 1 (a) and (b), and 2 to 10 (a), subject to the following observations:

Recommendation 1 (b)

Noting that States Parties' request for technical assistance had been turned down, owing to resource constraints, assurance was requested that this recommendation was viable. The assessments of the situation of women in States Parties to the Convention should always be based on reports by States Parties.

Recommendations 4 and 5

While the Division should not be blamed for the inadequate coordination among agencies, it was important that these two recommendations on improving coordination be implemented quickly and effectively.

Recommendation 5

Each agency should carry out their own duties, as appropriate.

Recommendation 6

A major role of publications was to promote the work of the Division. While the marketing and distribution efforts for these publications were significant, more resources should be transferred to substantive programme areas.

Recommendation 8

It would be difficult for the Division, which was already overworked, to also be involved in publishing articles in professional journals.

Recommendation 9

The existence of two web sites implied duplication.

256. The Committee recommended approval of recommendation 1 (c), on the understanding that (a) notification of consideration of reports by States Parties would continue to be provided in the *Journal of the United Nations*, and (b) all non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the United Nations already had an obligation to translate their reports into the working languages of the United Nations.

257. The Committee drew the attention of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to paragraph 92 of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the advancement of women programme.

4. Triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-seventh session on the evaluation of the statistics programme

258. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 5 and 6 June 2000, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-seventh session on the evaluation of the statistics programme (E/AC.51/2000/4).

259. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. The representative of the Secretary-General responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

260. It was stated that the main point made in the triennial review was the need for wide distribution of the statistical work of the United Nations and that the experience of other relevant organizations, including International Monetary Fund and World Bank data dissemination standards, could be referred to in this connection.

261. In relation to the confidentiality of national accounts information provided to the Committee on Contributions, it was expressed that this work should be conducted in a more transparent manner.

262. Questions were asked and views were expressed on the United Nations Economic and Social Information System (UNESIS), access to the Internet around the world, customized services for users, the needs of students and the shifts in resources in the Statistics Division indicated in the table in section V of the review.

Conclusions and recommendations

263. While recognizing the importance of and the need for advanced technology in the dissemination of statistical information throughout the United Nations system, use of traditional means of data dissemination should be continued where accessibility is still not widespread or is inefficient or non-existent.

264. The Committee endorsed the conclusions of the triennial review.

5. Triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-seventh session on the evaluation of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs

265. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 5 and 6 June 2000, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-seventh session on the in-depth evaluation of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (E/AC.51/2000/5).

266. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. The representative of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

267. The progress made in implementation of the recommendations of the Committee was noted with satisfaction. In this regard, the efforts of the new Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs established in 1998, in the wake of the reorganization of the Secretariat, were appreciated.

268. Regarding the capacity of the Office to provide rapidly the support needed in emergency situations, concerns were expressed about the absence of special United Nations emergency rules and procedures. Clarification was sought as to why such rules had not been adopted. It was also noted with concern that, pending development of such rules, the delegation of authority to recruit emergency personnel had not been granted to the Emergency Relief Coordinator. The view was also expressed that emergency rules and procedures, as well as further delegation of authority to the Emergency Relief Coordinator, should be considered and approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

269. It was stated that field coordination needed to be further strengthened. The current arrangements, including the concept of lead agency, needed to be reviewed. The Emergency Relief Coordinator should be provided with more authority, the terms of reference for his decision-making adopted and qualified personnel made available for field coordination functions. It was expressed that recent demands made on the Office were outstripping its capacity to respond, owing to the lack of resources available.

270. Concern was expressed about the reasons why the Steering Committee of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee referred to in recommendation 2 of the report, had not been established, as proposed by the Secretary-General in 1997. Clarification was sought as to whether the establishment of the Steering Committee was still needed.

Conclusions and recommendations

271. The Committee recommended approval of recommendations 1 and 3 of the triennial report, subject to the following observations:

The Committee stressed the need to finalize the development of special emergency rules and procedures, taking into account the requirements of the Office for the Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs emergency activities. These rules and procedures should be considered and approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

Chapter III
Coordination questions

A. Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1999

272. At its 20th meeting on 22 June 2000, the Committee considered the Annual Overview Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) for 1999 (E/2000/53).

273. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

274. It was noted that ACC was an essential component of the United Nations system. The improvements in the content and format of the ACC annual overview report, in line with the recommendations offered by CPC at previous sessions, was noted. It was felt that the improved format would facilitate a more dynamic and productive dialogue between ACC and CPC, and would make it easier for Member States to benefit from ACC's advice in their deliberations and to elaborate policy guidelines within which the coordination work of ACC should be pursued. In encouraging further improvement, it was observed that future annual reports should not be limited to reporting on the ACC sessions but should provide a basis for an assessment of progress in enhancing coordination throughout the system. It was also noted that the introductory statement by the representative of the Secretary-General offered additional useful information which should be reflected in the report of the Committee.

275. The openness with which strengths but also weaknesses of the United Nations system in addressing the challenges it faced, analysed in the report, was generally welcomed.

276. It was stated that the report did not provide full information on how ACC implemented mandates emanating from intergovernmental bodies, particularly the Economic and Social Council, as well as on the obstacles ACC faced in the context of coordination. It was explained that, to the extent full information on the outcomes of the activities of ACC and its subsidiary bodies were available in ACC reports as well as on the ACC web site, the annual reports were more selective and thus more analytical. Attention was drawn to the ACC and other inter-agency processes that were employed to carry out effectively the intergovernmental mandates, as reflected in a wide range of reports submitted to the Council and its functional commissions. This had been duly recognized by the Council in its resolution 1999/66, in which it had expressed, *inter alia*, appreciation of the ACC contribution in this regard.

277. As regards the difficulties faced by the system in the implementation of mandates and their coordination, it was pointed out that one of the main obstacles was resource constraint.

278. The enhanced dialogue between ACC and the Council was welcomed. It was indicated that ACC's work must focus on supporting policy development in the Council and at other relevant forums.

279. ACC efforts to expand outreach and elicit support from different stakeholders for the work and objectives of the United Nations system was noted. At the same time, concern was expressed that in developing the United Nations interaction with civil society, non-governmental organizations and especially the private sector, utmost care should be taken to ensure that it is managed and conducted within the overall context of the United Nations Charter.

280. While acknowledging that there were both positive and negative dimensions of globalization, it was stated that ACC should pay greater attention to addressing its negative consequences, and how to alleviate them. It was also stated that the key to addressing its consequences was through a genuine democratization of the international economic system. It was explained that the basic approach ACC was pursuing in this context was to ensure that United Nations system's organizations maximize their collective capacity to harness the forces of globalization to the fullest advantage of the people, particularly in developing countries, thereby helping maximize the benefits of globalization and minimize its negative aspects. It was in this context that issues relating to the international trading system and the trade, environment, labour, and human rights dimensions of globalization were taken up by ACC in the aftermath of the World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Seattle and the tenth session of UNCTAD.

281. It was emphasized that for the United Nations interactions with the private sector, there was a need to draft rules and guidelines through intergovernmental consultations.

282. It was stated that, in the context of challenges of globalization, the Administrative Committee on Coordination had used terminology and phrases that had not been accepted by intergovernmental bodies.

283. It was expressed that there should be no linkage between trade and environment/labour/human rights.

284. Concern was expressed that there continued to be a decline of official development assistance (ODA) for Africa. The United Nations system should make every effort to encourage the international community to give greater assistance to promote development in Africa.

285. The Committee welcomed the focus of ACC on addressing the consequences of HIV/AIDS in Africa, where this was becoming a serious developmental problem. At the same time, it was noted that attention must also be given to the impact of this epidemic in Asia where it was fast expanding. It was explained that the Secretary-General had already initiated this process at the first regular session of ACC in 2000.

286. The view was expressed that it was important for ACC to continue to give urgent attention to staff security and measures for improving this in the various countries where special missions are undertaken.

287. In considering the report's treatment of Article 50 of the Charter concerning the impact of sanctions on third party States, it was stated that this continued to be an important subject on which the report should contain more analytical analysis, including on the resulting economic losses experienced by affected countries. It was explained that the follow-up to General Assembly resolutions 54/107 and 54/96 would be considered directly by the General Assembly on the basis of the reports of

the Secretary-General. Given the timing of CPC meetings and of General Assembly consideration of this issue, it was not possible to bring up the same reports — which for understandable reasons were not yet ready — before CPC.

288. ACC's work programme for 2000 was given consideration and received expressions of support.

Conclusions and recommendations

289. The Committee took note of the annual overview report of ACC (E/2000/53). The Committee concurred with the approach being pursued in the preparation of the annual overview report.

290. The Committee recommended that while continuing to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa, attention must be given to other geographical regions, in particular to Asia, where it also took note, with appreciation, of the initiative of the Secretary-General.

291. The Committee noted that ACC continued to give attention to issues of staff security for its improvement.

292. The Committee emphasized the need for considering the establishment of an intergovernmental process to study the cooperation between the United Nations and the private sector.

293. The Committee stressed the important role of ACC in the implementation of the relevant intergovernmental mandates for mobilizing and monitoring the economic assistance efforts by the international community and the United Nations system to States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council, identifying solutions to the special economic problems of those States as well as in providing support to the efforts of the States affected by the developments in the Balkans for their economic recovery, structural adjustment and development.

294. The Committee recommended that ACC continue its work for the implementation of the relevant intergovernmental mandates and report on its progress in the context of its annual overview reports.

295. The Committee recommended that the provisions of paragraph 70 (a) of the report be reviewed as they were not in conformity with the legislative decisions.

296. The Committee noted that in the context of section II of the report regarding the challenge of globalization, ACC had frequently used terminology reflecting some concepts that had not been adopted by intergovernmental bodies, and recommended that in future ACC focus on accepted concepts.

B. United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

297. At its 23rd meeting, on 22 June 2000, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (E/AC.51/2000/6 and Corr.1).

Discussion

298. The pivotal role the Committee had played in setting in motion various mechanisms and frameworks to place Africa high on the agenda of the United Nations was recalled. The Committee had included programmes on Africa in the medium-term plans for the periods 1992-1997 and 1998-2001, and had linked the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s as an implementing arm. It was observed that the development of Africa must remain the central focus of the work of the United Nations.

299. It was noted that the progress report was comprehensive but was more descriptive than analytical.

300. The significant progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s was noted with satisfaction. It was observed that the areas in which progress had been recorded were governance, information technology for development, education, health, and population and gender. In other areas, such as water, poverty eradication, trade access and opportunities, economic diversification, regional cooperation and integration, environment and South-South cooperation, the organizations concerned were urged to strengthen collaboration in their respective clusters.

301. Concern was expressed that not enough progress was being achieved in eradicating poverty. Lack of resources was one of the primary factors impeding progress. The international community, in particular the donor countries, was urged to increase financial resource flows to Africa, in terms of official development assistance and foreign direct investment, according to agreed commitments.

302. While the progress made in the health cluster was noted, especially the drive against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, concern was expressed about the prioritization and level of support for the health sector in dealing with other killer diseases, such as malaria and pneumonia.

303. The need to strengthen regional cooperation and integration was emphasized. In that regard, support was needed for the capacity-building required to establish the African economic community, as well as for strengthening the regional and subregional economic groupings and the joint secretariat of the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank.

304. The importance of enhanced coordination among the organizations of the United Nations system working in Africa and the need for harmonizing the non-United Nations initiatives through the creation of linkages and the sharing of

information was underscored. The organizations of the United Nations system working in Africa should adopt a holistic approach.

Conclusions and recommendations

305. The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.51/2000/6 and Corr.1). In noting the results achieved, it recalled the pivotal role it had played in setting in motion various mechanisms and frameworks relating to Africa.

306. The Committee stressed the importance of resource mobilization for the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, and in that connection expressed support for the resource mobilization strategy set out in annex I to the report.

307. The Committee requested that an independent evaluation covering the five-year duration of the Special Initiative be carried out and submitted to it for consideration at its forty-first session, in 2001.

308. The Committee reiterated the importance that it attached to its previous recommendation, agreed upon during its thirty-eighth session, that the different lead agencies be called upon, under the coordination of the ACC Steering Committee, to develop, in their respective areas, a common strategic framework for action that would analyse and highlight problems, set goals, determine the respective contributions of organizations, indicate necessary resources and set reference points, including performance indicators.

C. Draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005

309. At its 23rd meeting, on 22 June 2000, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General on the draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005 (E/AC.51/2000/7).

310. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the note and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of item 4 (c).

Discussion

311. The progress made in the efforts for the advancement of women was welcomed, while at the same time remaining constraints were acknowledged. The view was also expressed that the report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women 1996-2001 (E/CN.6/2000/3) should not have been discussed by the Committee but should have been transmitted directly to the Economic and Social Council in accordance with Council resolution 1999/16.

Conclusions and recommendations

312. The Committee recommended taking note of the note by the Secretary-General.

313. The Committee recommended considering the draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005 prior to its submission to the Economic and Social Council.

Chapter IV

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system" and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon

314. At its 24th meeting, on 26 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system" (A/54/700) and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/54/700/Add.1).

315. Inspector Francesco Mezzalama of the Joint Inspection Unit and the representative of the Secretary-General respectively introduced both reports and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the reports.

Discussion

[See part two, chap. III, paras. 72-75]

Conclusions and recommendations

316. The Committee decided to resume consideration of this programme during the second part of its fortieth session (see part two, chap. III, paras. 76-80).

Chapter V

Items for consideration during the second part of the fortieth session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

317. At its 27th meeting, on 1 July, the Committee decided to convene the second part of its fortieth session at United Nations Headquarters from 21 to 29 August 2000.

318. The Committee also decided to consider the following items and questions at the second part of its fortieth session:

3. Programme questions:

(a) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999;*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations (A/55/73)

Report of the Secretary-General on ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States (A/55/85)

(b) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005:

Programme 7, Economic and social affairs (A/55/6 (Prog. 7))**

Programme 19, Human rights (A/55/6 (Prog. 19))***

(c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

5. Report of the Joint Inspection Unit:****

Documentation

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system (A/54/700) and comments by the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/54/700/Add.1)

6. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.

* Also considered at the first part of the fortieth session; see chap. II, paras. 13-15 above.
** Ibid.; see chap. II, paras. 92-101 above.
*** Ibid.; see chap. II, paras. 185-187 above.
**** Ibid.; see chap. IV, paras. 314-316 above.

Chapter VI

Provisional agenda for the forty-first session of the Committee

319. In pursuance of paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly, for their review, the provisional agenda for its forty-first session, together with the required documentation.

320. In its decision 1983/163 of 22 July 1983, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

321. The following draft provisional agenda for the forty-first session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority, will be completed at the end of the present session in the light of recommendations adopted by the Committee:

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

   Documentation

   Progress report on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (A/54/16, para. 15 (b); General Assembly resolution 54/236 of 23 December 1999)

4. Programme questions:

   (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

   (b) Evaluation;

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of sustainable development (A/55/16, para. __)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on population (A/55/16, para. __)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the evaluation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (A/53/16, __)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the evaluation of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (A/53/16, __)

5. Coordination questions:

(a) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

Documentation

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 2000

(b) Implementation of the Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the independent evaluation of the Implementation of the Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (E/AC.51/2000/L.6/Add.__, para. __)

(c) Draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005 (E/AC.51/2000/L.6/Add.36)

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.

7. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.

8. Provisional agenda for the forty-second session.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session.

Annex I

Agenda for the fortieth session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999;
   (b) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005;
   (c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003;
   (d) Evaluation.
4. Coordination questions:
   (a) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;
   (b) United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;
   (c) Draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005.
5. Report of the Joint Inspection Unit.
6. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.
7. Provisional agenda for the forty-first session.
8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fortieth session.

Annex II

List of documents before the Committee at the first part of its fortieth session

A/54/700 and Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system" and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon
A/55/6	Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005
A/55/6 (Introduction)	Introduction
A/55/6 (Prog. 1)	Political affairs
A/55/6 (Prog. 2)	Disarmament
A/55/6 (Prog. 3)	Peacekeeping operations
A/55/6 (Prog. 4)	Peaceful uses of outer space
A/55/6 (Prog. 5)	Legal affairs
A/55/6 (Prog. 6)	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services
A/55/6 (Prog. 7)	Economic and social affairs
A/55/6 (Prog. 8)	Africa: New Agenda for Development
A/55/6 (Prog. 9)	Trade and development
A/55/6 (Prog. 10)	Environment
A/55/6 (Prog. 11)	Human settlements
A/55/6 (Prog. 12)	Crime prevention and criminal justice
A/55/6 (Prog. 13)	International drug control
A/55/6 (Prog. 14)	Economic and social development in Africa
A/55/6 (Prog. 15)	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific
A/55/6 (Prog. 16)	Economic development in Europe
A/55/6 (Prog. 17)	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean
A/55/6 (Prog. 18)	Economic and social development in Western Asia
A/55/6 (Prog. 19)	Human rights
A/55/6 (Prog. 20)	Humanitarian assistance
A/55/6 (Prog. 21)	Protection of and assistance to refugees

A/55/6 (Prog. 22)	Palestine refugees
A/55/6 (Prog. 23)	Public information
A/55/6 (Prog. 24)	Management and central support services
A/55/6 (Prog. 25)	Internal oversight
A/55/63	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives
A/55/73	Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999
A/55/85	Report of the Secretary-General on ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States
E/2000/53	Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1999
E/AC.51/2000/1	Annotated provisional agenda
E/AC.51/2000/2	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the global development trends, issues and policies and global approaches to social and microeconomic issues and policies and the corresponding subprogrammes in the regional commissions
E/AC.51/2000/3	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the advancement of women programme
E/AC.51/2000/4	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-seventh session on the evaluation of the statistics programme

E/AC.51/2000/5	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-seventh session on the in-depth evaluation of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs
E/AC.51/2000/6 and Corr.1	Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s
E/AC.51/2000/7	Note by the Secretary-General on the draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005
E/AC.51/2000/L.1/Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the fortieth session
E/AC.51/2000/L.2/Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work for the session
E/AC.51/2000/L.3	Note by the Secretariat containing a list of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit
E/AC.51/2000/L.4	Note by the Secretariat on the current notional costs of documentation and utilization of interpretation services
E/AC.51/2000/L.5	Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the forty-first session of the Committee
E/AC.51/2000/L.6 and Add.3-21 and 23-36	Draft report of the Committee on the first part of its fortieth session
E/AC.51/2000/INF/1 and Add.1	List of delegations
E/AC.51/2000/CRP.1	Review of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 by sectoral, functional and regional bodies

Part two
Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the second part of its fortieth session, held at United Nations Headquarters from 21 to 29 August 2000

I. Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held the second part of its fortieth session at United Nations Headquarters from 21 to 29 August 2000. It held three formal meetings (28th-30th) and a number of informal consultations.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the second part of its fortieth session, which was adopted by the Committee at its 27th meeting, on 1 July 2000, is contained in annex I.

B. Attendance

3. The following States members of the Committee were represented at the second part of the fortieth session:

Argentina
Bahamas
Bangladesh
Benin
Brazil
Cameroon
China
Comoros
Cuba
Egypt
France
Gabon
Germany
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Italy
Japan
Mauritania
Mexico
Pakistan
Peru
Poland
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Russian Federation
San Marino
Uganda
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Zambia
Zimbabwe

4. Ukraine was not represented during the second part of the fortieth session.

5. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Austria
Croatia
Finland
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Morocco
Syrian Arab Republic

6. The following specialized agencies were represented:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

7. The Controller and senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat participated in the work of the Committee.

C. Documentation

8. The list of documents before the Committee at the second part of the fortieth session is contained in annex II.

D. Adoption of the report of the Committee

9. At its 30th meeting, on 29 August 2000, the Committee adopted the draft report on the work of the second part of its fortieth session (E/AC.51/2000/L.8 and Add.1-7).

II. Programme questions

A. Programme planning

1. Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999

10. During the first part of its fortieth session, at its 25th and 26th meetings, on 26 June 2000, the Committee had considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999 (A/55/73), and the Under-Secretary-General for the Office of Internal Oversight Services had introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

11. During the second part of its fortieth session, the Committee completed its consideration of this programme.

Discussion

12. Concerns were voiced over the late submission of the report because it reduced the ability of delegations to analyse and present views on the report in a comprehensive manner.

13. Appreciation was expressed regarding the improved quality of the report, which provided a better basis from which to assess the results achieved from the implementation of mandated activities and helped programme managers and Member States to apply the lessons learned to the following biennium and to improve programme performance. Appreciation was also expressed for the inclusion of qualitative assessments, as mandated by General Assembly resolution 53/207, as well as the analytical approach applied to the evaluation of the significant volume of data collected. In that regard, it was noted that the report contained some useful qualitative evidence of programme performance and impact, especially from the use of modern technologies, the specific and quantified evidence of the number of requests for assistance and their impact, and achievements backed by concrete indicators. Future programme performance reports should accentuate both the positive and the negative aspects of the impact of implemented outputs, and indicate areas for improvement as well as successes, with clear evidence of achievements.

14. The Committee considered that the overall rate of implementation of 98 per cent, the highest level in a decade, was a clear indication that the Secretary-General's reform initiatives had benefited the Organization and noted that, where

implementation rates were relatively low, it was explained as being the result of either legislative decisions or programmatic changes. In that regard, the view was expressed that it was the responsibility of programme managers to use resources provided to them by Member States in the programme budget to achieve full implementation of mandates. It was stressed that, in agreeing to the budget, Member States provided what they considered to be adequate resources to implement mandated activities fully and, therefore, programme managers had to use those resources optimally to achieve the objectives set by Member States. In that regard, programme managers could only achieve full implementation of mandated activities if they clearly knew what Member States wanted them to do. The clarity and transparency on the part of programme managers would allow Member States to assess whether there had been full implementation or not, whether resources were provided at the right level and to the right areas and whether the orientation of programmes should be redirected. It was noted that some departments had achieved rates of implementation beyond the 100 per cent mark while others did not fully implement their programme of work. It was also observed that the report did not contain adequate information on mandates that were not implemented for lack of resources. The view was expressed that more information on the impact of limited resources on programme implementation, as well as emphasis on what affected programme implementation, with suggestions for remedial measures to be taken, would have been useful.

15. Concerns were expressed regarding whether the terminations, especially those decided by programme managers, were carried out in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. Concern was also expressed that a total of 1,732 outputs were added at the initiative of the Secretariat, when the implementation of mandated outputs by Member States should have been given priority. With regard to the further postponement of carried-over outputs and their continuing relevance, it was stated that that consideration should be taken into account in the preparation of future budgets and medium-term plans. Concern was also expressed about the level of dependency on extrabudgetary resources to implement the regular programme of work. In that regard, it was suggested that the use of such resources and their availability should be further addressed to ensure predictable sources of financing so that future mandated activities would not be affected, given that 14 per cent of the terminated outputs were attributed to vacancies and a shortage of extrabudgetary resources.

16. It was observed that consideration should be given to altering the timing of the programme performance report so that it more closely matched the budgeting cycle, and to including indicators of achievement in budgets which would further improve the basis of programme planning and monitoring. The provision of clearer expected accomplishments and benchmarks by which performance would be measured would help provide a basis for judging whether mandated activities had been fully implemented and would help guide decisions on resources. It was useful for programme managers and Member States to consider what was achieved in the past as they considered future programmes and whether the current levels of resources provided were appropriate. In that regard, the provision of a clearer description of what was intended and reporting on what was achieved would help that consideration.

17. The language contained in paragraph 47 of A/55/73 was not as provided in General Assembly resolutions. The inferred linkages between programme planning, budgeting and the allocation of resources or results-based budgeting had not been discussed and agreed upon in the General Assembly. The programme performance report should be considered a tool for accountability on the part of programme managers and, therefore, consideration should be given to the participation of the Office of Human Resources Management, jointly with programme managers in the preparation of the programme performance report.

18. Concern was expressed as to the criteria used in reference to paragraph 29, as well as paragraph 42 of the report. In that regard, the view was expressed that further clarification, refinement and analysis were needed. Concern was also raised regarding the impact of reform and restructuring as reflected in the qualitative assessment sections for the Office of Legal Affairs (annex, sect. 6) and for UNCTAD (annex, sect. 11A).

19. The efforts by United Nations departments and offices aimed at strengthening monitoring modalities and performance evaluation were commended. In recognition of the need to improve programme implementation by the institutionalization of computerized programme performance monitoring and reporting systems, the view was expressed that there should be a harmonized approach within the United Nations to ensure cost-effective strategies for computer-based monitoring systems development and application.

20. It was also suggested that the Office of Internal Oversight Services should carefully examine the inputs from substantive departments before including them in the performance reports so that the reports reflect objectively the actual performance by programme managers.

Conclusions and recommendations

21. The Committee noted with appreciation the overall high implementation rate achieved by the Secretariat. It requested all reporting entities to bear in mind that systematic and consistent programme monitoring were critical components of programme management, and all departments/offices that had not already done so should establish viable and compatible monitoring systems.

22. The Committee noted with appreciation the inclusion of the qualitative assessments, prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 53/207. However, some of the assessments were too general and not very helpful in determining whether activities had resulted in expected outcomes. To that end, the Committee looked forward to further refinement of future programme performance reports in full compliance with the revised Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

2. Ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States

23. During the first part of its fortieth session, at its 25th and 26th meetings, on 26 June 2000, the Committee had considered the report of the Secretary-General on ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and

activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States (General Assembly resolution 53/207, sect. V, para. 18) (A/55/85), and the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services had introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of it.

24. During the second part of its fortieth session, the Committee completed its consideration of this programme.

Discussion

25. The improved quality and presentation was appreciated, although concern was expressed over the late availability of the report. The report was considered to be concise, clear and informative. The recommendations were based on thorough and sound analysis and were in line with the rules and regulations governing programme planning and monitoring. It was also observed that the full impact of the proposed approach was difficult to assess and, therefore, endorsing such major changes without more discussion on the full implications was difficult. It was also cautioned that, while achieving objectives was important, it should not be the overriding factor, and care should be taken not to compromise other United Nations principles.

26. It was emphasized that the linkage between the medium-term plan, the programme budget and the monitoring and evaluation of programme performance as instruments in an integrated management process was important, and further improvement of the process was essential. With the recent revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8), focus was being placed on achievements and accomplishments, and not only on outputs. It was noted that the formulation of the expected accomplishments in programme budgets could be further improved so that they were clearer and so that it was possible to judge whether they had been achieved at the end of the biennium. It was also observed that there were inherent limitations to the formulation of expected accomplishments and the measurement of achievements, although they were considered indispensable tools for effective monitoring. Systematic, consistent and effective monitoring could assist managers to implement mandated activities, thereby achieving the stated objectives and providing a tool to decide on problematic parts of the programme.

27. While acknowledging that performance indicators were necessary, it was considered that more discussion was required as to their form and as to who would establish them (programme managers or Member States) once the format of the medium-term plans had been adopted. The indicators should address the quality of achievement. The role of intergovernmental bodies in evaluating the implementation of outputs and services compared with the present situation needed to be clarified. It was noted that the proposed information on achievements would be additional to the quantified data on implementation, including information on uncompleted activities, as indicated in the report, which would increase the level of oversight for the Committee.

28. Views were expressed on the timing and use of the programme performance report. The view was expressed that, while lessons could be learned from the programme performance report that could assist in the programme-planning process, a direct linkage between that report and the programme budget was not feasible and not in conformity with the regulations and rules. The programme budget was

determined by legislative decisions and proposals of the Secretary-General. As the programme budget and programme performance report were prepared by separate entities in the United Nations and taken up at different times, it was difficult to see how they could be linked.

29. The view was expressed that managers should be responsible for achieving full implementation with the resources allocated, but it was also observed that programme managers needed to have a clear indication of what was required by Member States. The direct responsibility of individual programme managers to implement their programmes was stressed. The practicality and feasibility of programme managers, addressing the Committee to explain non-implementation, as suggested in the report, was questioned. The introduction and effectiveness of computerized monitoring systems was recognized, and the Office of Internal Oversight Services was encouraged to arrange the necessary training in this regard.

Conclusions and recommendations

30. The Committee noted the report of the Secretary-General (A/55/85) and reaffirmed the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

B. Programme questions: proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (item 3 (b))

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

31. During the first part of its fortieth session, at its 10th and 11th meetings, on 14 June 2000, and the Committee had considered programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 7)), and the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs had introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

32. During the second part of its fortieth session, at its 30th meeting, on 29 August 2000, the Committee completed its consideration of this programme.

Discussion

33. Support was expressed for the activities of the programme, encompassing key aspects of the Organization's work in the economic and social fields. Appreciation was expressed regarding the clarity and concision with which all eight subprogrammes of the programme's narrative were presented. Satisfaction was expressed about the focus in the overall orientation of the programme on the special needs of Africa, the least developed countries and the promotion of South-South cooperation. Special circumstances and needs of transit developing countries should also be included in the orientation of the programme.

34. It was observed that the reference to more active interaction between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions should have been expanded and that there should be a closer link between the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and the work of the General Assembly. It was also pointed out

that the issue of support to non-governmental organizations and of interactions between the Council and non-governmental organizations should have been included among the objectives of the subprogramme.

35. It was stated that the concept of economic growth should be an integral part of the subprogramme on sustainable development. Reference to development targets should have been made. It was emphasized that South-South cooperation should be an important dimension of operational activities executed under the subprogramme.

36. It was stated that closer collaboration with other international organizations would continue in order to improve economic, social, demographic, environment, trade and other related statistics and to promote the systems in particular, including through training and other forms of technical cooperation.

37. An increase in the number of requests by users, including the Member States, for the Division's statistical data was emphasized.

38. It was observed that globalization should have been presented in a more balanced manner.

Conclusions and recommendations

39. **The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:**

Paragraph 7.1

In the third sentence, replace the words "eradicating poverty and to" with the words "promoting sustainable development, in particular to eradicate poverty and to address"; and after the words "the landlocked countries", insert the words "transit developing countries".

Paragraph 7.2

At the end of the paragraph, add a reference to the 10-year review of the World Conference on Education for All, to be held in Dakar in 2000.

Paragraph 7.7

In subparagraph (d), replace the words "the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and civil society" with the words "the United Nations, financial and trade institutions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders of civil society".

At the end of subparagraph (e), insert the words "by, *inter alia*, linking the outcomes of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council to the deliberations in the framework of the General Assembly".

Paragraph 7.8

After subparagraph (d), add the following subparagraph:

"(e) More effective interactions between the Council and trade as well as financial institutions".

Paragraph 7.9

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) Usefulness of results of the interactive debates and panel discussions and dissemination of these deliberations, including through the Internet;"

Paragraph 7.10

In the second sentence, replace the words "seek to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women" with the words "ensure support to assist the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to increase its effectiveness and efficiency".

In the third sentence, replace the words "The mainstreaming of a gender perspective in every sector" with the following sentence: "An important objective of the subprogramme is to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective at all levels"; and begin the next sentence by inserting the word "The" before the word "improvement".

Paragraph 7.12

In the second sentence, before the words "increasing the effectiveness of", insert the words "*inter alia*".

Paragraph 7.13

At the end of subparagraph (d), add the words "without prejudice to the provisions of Article 101 of the Charter".

In subparagraph (f), after the words "Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women", insert the words "and its Optional Protocol".

After subparagraph (f), add the following subparagraph:

"(g) An increased capacity of the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women as indicated in article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women."

Paragraph 7.14

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the words "the number of reports examined by the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women".

At the beginning of subparagraph (c), insert the words "Usefulness of".

At the end of subparagraph (f), insert the words "including the enhancement of the capabilities of the regional commissions to work as focal points for inter-agency coordination on gender issues within the United Nations system".

Paragraph 7.16

In subparagraph (a), after the words "activities related to", add the words "the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and".

In subparagraph (b), replace the words "as modified by further action and initiatives" with the words "and promoting also, in this context, additional measures and initiatives".

Replace subparagraphs (e) and (f), with the following subparagraph:

"(e) Providing assistance to Governments and the global community to further the implementation of major intergovernmental policy documents on ageing, disabilities and youth, including the International Plan of Action on Ageing and its revision and updates, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the World Programme of Action for the Youth to the year 2000 and beyond; facilitating access to information in these areas through, *inter alia*, the development of an Internet-accessible database on relevant policies and implementation thereof."

Paragraph 7.17

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) More effective implementation of the commitments and policies contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development as well as the outcome of the General Assembly at its special session to be held in June 2000;"

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) The provision of effective assistance to Member States in achieving the goal of eradicating poverty through decisive national action and international cooperation, particularly in the context of the objectives of the Social Summit;"

In subparagraph (e), replace the word "international" with the word "intergovernmental".

Paragraph 7.18

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the words "and its review outcome".

At the beginning of subparagraph (d), insert the words "The impact of".

Paragraph 7.19

The paragraph should read:

"The subprogramme will seek to ensure the effective and coordinated implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable

Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly to review the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, and the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on the recommendations of bodies responsible for energy and natural resources."

Paragraph 7.20

The paragraph should read:

"The Division for Sustainable Development is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Promoting effective and coordinated implementation of the sustainable development agenda of the United Nations;

(b) Providing substantive support and bringing new issues within the context of Agenda 21 to the attention of the Commission on Sustainable Development for its consideration, including assessment of critical areas of sustainability;

(c) Following up on the decisions taken regarding the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development, with due attention paid to matters related to the provision of adequate and predictable new and additional financial resources to developing countries and support to the efforts of the countries with economies in transition; to changing production and consumption patterns and mechanisms for the transfer of technology to those countries, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed in Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21; to addressing poverty in the context of sustainable development; and to ensuring the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 53/7, in which it endorsed the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, and 54/215, in which it called for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, as a part of the overall new and renewable sources of energy agenda, is fully integrated and brought into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development;

(d) Providing advisory services to Governments, at their request, in preparing national sustainable development strategies and related actions;

(e) Devising operational strategies to promote sustainable use of natural resources and energy, strengthening institutional, human resources and policy-making capacity in the area of natural resources, in particular water resources, and helping to develop and commercialize new and renewable sources of energy, as well as strengthening national institutions for the assessment and management of energy resources and related requests;

(f) Promoting and supporting North-South international cooperation in the area of sustainable development."

Paragraph 7.21

After the words "major groups" insert the words "as defined in Agenda 21"; and after the word "including", insert the words "women, youth, indigenous people".

Paragraph 7.22

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) Increase in the number of collaborative arrangements and consultative processes involving the United Nations system;"

Subparagraph (d) should read:

"(d) An increase in technical cooperation activities in support of elaboration and formulation with a view to implementation of national strategies for sustainable development in accordance with the goal outlined in paragraph 24 (a) of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;"

At the beginning of subparagraph (e), insert the words "Usefulness of".

Paragraph 7.24

In subparagraph (a), after the words "related data" insert the words "and metadata".

Paragraph 7.26

In subparagraph (e), after the words "routinely produce", insert the words "and analyse".

Paragraph 7.30

In subparagraph (b), after the words "trends and policies", insert the words "for development".

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) Enhanced ability of Member States (i) to formulate national population and related policies, (ii) to improve their national institutional capabilities for the collection and analysis of national population information, and (iii) to enable application of this information for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly."

Paragraph 7.33

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) Supporting the efforts of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and economies in transition to mobilize

financial resources for development by advancing the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development to be held in 2001;"

In subparagraph (a), replace the words "advancing some of the outcomes of" with the words "advancing the outcomes of".

In subparagraph (b), the first clause should read:

"(b) Addressing, through research and analysis, issues pertaining to domestic resource mobilization, augmentation of official development assistance and increase in international private capital flows;"

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) Providing the analysis of necessary actions to promote international financial stability to improve early warning, prevention and response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises in a timely manner, and to reform the international financial system, while also remaining responsive to the challenges of development and the protection of the most vulnerable countries and social groups, including the evaluation of the role of the international financial institutions;"

After subparagraph (d), add the following subparagraph:

"(e) Foster closer collaboration and understanding among the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions."

Paragraph 7.34

The paragraph should read:

"Noteworthy among expected accomplishments would be a constructive dialogue on macroeconomic policy issues in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council through systematic surveys of the global economy and substantive support to the policy processes, such as those relating to the high-level intergovernmental event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries."

Paragraph 7.35

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

Paragraph 7.36

After the first sentence, insert the following sentence:

"Particular attention should be given to: (a) the strengthening of countries' policy development, institutional and managerial capacity to deal with globalization, and (b) the respective roles of the state and the market in the development process".

Paragraph 7.37

In subparagraph (c), replace the word "Governments" with the words "and in close consultation with Member States".

In subparagraph (d), after the word "challenges", add the words "and exploit the benefits".

Subparagraph (e) should read:

"(e) Development of analytical tools and options using adequate methodologies for impact assessment to respond to requests from Governments and international bodies for information, methodologies and assessments regarding the linkages between political and economic issues and policies, such as economic sanctions, imposition of coercive economic measures, the relationship between disarmament and development, and relevant aspects of post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction;"

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph:

"(f) Interfacing and cooperating with organizations within the United Nations system in this field."

Paragraph 7.38

The paragraph should read:

"Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improved intergovernmental dialogue and facilitation of consensus-building and decision-making regarding the emerging consequences of globalization for the state;

(b) Broadened common understanding of and approaches to public management and changing Governments' capacities;

(c) Strengthened institutional and human resources of government capacities;

(d) Broader and deeper understanding of major effects of public administration and public finance on civil society;

(e) Improved interface and coordination between the intergovernmental and regional policy deliberations and operational activities of the United Nations system in the field of public administration, finance and development;

(f) Enhanced understanding of development of the Internet on the role of the state;

(g) Enhanced capacity to assess emerging vulnerabilities in government capacities;

(h) Improved understanding of complex regulatory practices for emerging global standards;

(i) Greater anticipation of governmental and non-governmental entities in the work of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance."

Paragraph 7.39

After subparagraph (c), insert the following subparagraph:

"(d) The number and quality of analytical reports and publications on emerging issues in public administration and finance."

Legislative mandates

Under programme 7, Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/55, replace the words "(subprogrammes 1, 2 and 5)" with the words "(all subprogrammes)".

Under subprogramme 4, add the following General Assembly resolution:

"54/225 Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development"

Under subprogramme 6, delete the following Economic and Social Council resolution:

"1997/61 Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits"

Under subprogramme 8, add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"54/107 Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

54/96 G Economic assistance to Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans

54/54 T Relationship between disarmament and development"

and add the following mandate:

"Economic and Social Council decision

1999/59 Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions".

Programme 19
Human rights

40. During the first part of its fortieth session, at its 17th meeting, on 19 June 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination had considered programme 19, Human rights, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 19)), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights had introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

41. During the second part of its fortieth session, the Committee completed its consideration of this programme.

Discussion

42. Support was expressed for the programme. It was stated that the promotion and protection of human rights was one of the priorities of the United Nations. The proposed programme was considered to be coherent and highlighted the central role of the Office of the High Commissioner.

43. It was stated that the responsibilities of the Secretariat and those of Member States should be better delineated.

44. The attempt to propose expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement was noted. It was stated that the indicators were difficult to formulate for human rights and that caution should be exercised in that area.

45. It was noted with concern that the right to development was not given sufficient attention. It was considered that the narrative should have included references to the effects of endemic structural adjustments and to the negative impact of the economic crisis at the international level which affected developing countries.

46. It was recalled that the promotion and protection of human rights was a top priority of the United Nations, including the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law. The Committee expressed its full support for efforts of the Secretary-General to mainstream human rights throughout the United Nations system.

47. It was also noted that there was no agreement on human rights as a cross-cutting issue since support was also given for development as a cross-cutting issue in all activities of the Organization.

48. The following amendments were proposed to programme 19, Human rights, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005:

Paragraph 19.1

In the second sentence, delete the words "including the Declaration on the Right to Development" and the words "including General Assembly resolution 926 (X) on advisory services in the field of human rights".

At the end of the paragraph, add a reference to Economic and Social Council resolution 1235 (XLII) of 7 June 1967 or delete specific references concerning the right to development and advisory services.

Paragraph 19.2

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "Furthermore, the Office has the responsibility for coordinating human rights promotion and protection activities throughout the United Nations system and for promoting intra-system cooperation and coordination in this area".

Paragraph 19.3

The first sentence should read: "The Office will continue to promote cooperation with the efforts made by Member States to implement the Charter's provisions on human rights and the internationally recognized human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations".

The first sentence should read: "The Office will continue to promote cooperation between national Governments and institutions, civil society and the United Nations for the promotion and protection of human rights for all".

In the third sentence, insert the words "when appropriate" after the word "regional".

In the third sentence, replace the words "Priority will continue to be given to emphasizing the importance of human rights on the international and national agendas" with the words "Emphasis will be given to the importance of human rights on international and national agendas".

At the end of the paragraph, before the words "situations of international concern identified by", insert the words "human rights violations in all parts of the world, particularly"

At the end of the paragraph, replace the words "international concern identified by the Commission on Human Rights and other pertinent United Nations organs" with the words "human rights violations".

Paragraph 19.4

In the first sentence, after the words "Member States", insert the words "upon their request".

The second sentence should read: "Human rights (civil, political, economic, social and cultural, [including/and] the right to development) will be addressed in an integrated, interrelated and interdependent manner, by stimulating and coordinating action across the whole United Nations system".

In the third sentence, after the words "human rights organs", insert the words "the special procedures".

In the third sentence, replace the words "strengthen, rationalize and streamline the United Nations machinery in the field of human rights, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 48/141" with the words "adapt the United Nations human rights machinery to its current and future needs"

In the third sentence, delete the words "and to strengthen, rationalize and streamline the United Nations machinery in the field of human rights, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 48/141".

In the third sentence, replace the words "strengthen, rationalize and streamline" with "strengthen and rationalize".

Subprogramme 1

In order to improve transparency and to better identify the different activities and accomplishments expected to be achieved by the programme, subprogramme 1 should be separated into two subprogrammes, one on the right to development and the other on research and analysis.

Paragraph 19.5

Add a second sentence on the objectives concerning the research and analysis aspect of the subprogramme, possibly drawing on the first sentence of paragraph 19.5 of the current medium-term plan.

Replace the word "realize" with the words "promote the realization of".

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "through research and analysis activities".

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "The subprogramme also strives to promote and protect democracy and the rule of law and to mobilize against racism and all forms of discrimination".

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "including through undertaking research and analysis".

The paragraph should read:

"The primary objective of this subprogramme will include promotion, protection and realization of the right to development. In this regard, the objectives will be to develop an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the implementation, coordination and promotion of the right to development in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development and subsequent mandates and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, aimed at facilitating action to be taken by relevant bodies of the United Nations system including treaty bodies, international development and financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by specialized agencies and United Nations treaty bodies; to promote national implementation of the right to development through coordination with state-appointed officials; to identify obstacles at the national and international levels; and to promote awareness about the content and importance of the right to development, including through information and educational activities".

The paragraph should read:

"The primary objective of this subprogramme is to strengthen respect for human rights, including the realization of the right to development".

The paragraph should read:

"The primary objectives of this subprogramme are to realize the right to development and to strengthen research and analysis capabilities in order to improve respect for human rights".

Paragraph 19.6

Reposition subparagraph (a) after subparagraph (c) and renumber subparagraphs accordingly.

Subparagraph (b) should be part of a different paragraph, addressing research and analysis as a separate issue.

Delete subparagraph (c).

After subparagraph (c), add the following subparagraph:

"(d) Strengthening international cooperation to eliminate the obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to development at the international level."

Paragraph 19.7

In the first sentence, replace the words "to ensure" with the word "so".

In the first sentence, delete the word "all".

In the first sentence, replace the words "the programmes and activities" with the words "appropriate programmes and activities".

In the second sentence, delete the words "resulting from failure to observe civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights", and delete the last sentence.

In the second sentence, delete the words "civil and political rights, as well as".

In the second sentence, after the words "capacity-building", insert the following: "as well as promote research and analysis to eliminate obstacles to development, not only at the national level, but also at the international level, as a result of the problems arising from globalization, such as marginalization, lack of access to commercial and financial mechanisms, debt problems and the decrease in international assistance for development. Proper consideration and support should be provided to this subprogramme within the general framework of this programme".

In the second sentence, after the words "cultural rights", insert the words "and promoting research and analysis to eliminate obstacles to the realization of the right to development".

Before the last sentence, insert the following sentence: "In this context, structural and systemic constraints impeding the realization of national-level actions will be addressed at the international level".

In the last sentence, delete the words "in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council".

Paragraph 19.8

In the first sentence, delete the words "the implementation of standards".

In the first sentence, delete the words "and the preparation of new standards".

In the first sentence, replace the words "economic, social and cultural rights" with the words "civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights".

In the first sentence, replace the words "economic, social and cultural" with the word "human".

In the first sentence, before the words "rule of law", delete the words "and procedures for".

In the first sentence, the words "to promoting democracy" and "strengthening national human rights institutions" should be revised in order to more properly reflect the mandates adopted by intergovernmental organs regarding the role of Member States in the elaboration of these issues at the national level.

In the second sentence, replace the words "vulnerable groups" with the words "marginalized and vulnerable groups".

In the second sentence, replace the words "such as" with the words "*inter alia*".

In the second sentence, after the words "such as", insert the words "human rights defenders".

In the second sentence, replace the words "vulnerable groups" with the words "persons belonging to vulnerable groups".

Delete the reference to the outcome of the World Conference against Racism.

In the fourth sentence, delete the words "gross and persistent".

In the fourth sentence, replace the word "persistent" with the word "systematic".

The last sentence should read: "Activities also relate to specific situations of violations of human rights, and ...".

In the last sentence, before the word "institutions", insert the word "national".

Paragraph 19.10

Replace subparagraphs (a) to (e) with the following subparagraphs:

"(a) System-wide integration of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights;

(b) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of human rights through research and analysis activities;

(c) Implementation of the outcome of the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and of the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights dealing with the protection and promotion of human rights, in particular the right to development."

In subparagraph (a), delete the words "Wider integration/inclusion of a human rights approach, in general, and".

In subparagraph (a), delete the word "fundamental".

In subparagraph (a), replace the word "fundamental" with the word "all".

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) Wider integration/inclusion on the promotion and protection of the right to development, in particular, across the human rights programme and the

relevant programmes of work of United Nations departments/offices and specialized agencies and of major international organizations and forums related to this issue;"

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) Wider integration/inclusion of a human rights approach, in general, and the promotion and protection of the right to development as an integral part of human rights, across the whole United Nations system as well as in major international, regional and national development agencies, organizations and forums;"

In subparagraph (a), replace the word "Wider" with the words "United Nations system-wide".

Subparagraph (a) should read:

(a) "System-wide integration of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights;"

Divide subparagraph (a) into the following subparagraphs:

"(a) Further integration of human rights across the United Nations system;

(a) *bis* Wider integration of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights;"

In subparagraph (b), replace the word "outcome" with the word "decisions".

Delete subparagraph (b).

At the end of subparagraph (c), add the words "giving proper attention to the right to development".

In subparagraph (d), delete reference to the World Conference on Racism; and before the words "Improved implementation", insert the words "Provide assistance, upon request from Member States, to enable the".

In subparagraph (e), after the words "such as", insert the words "human rights defenders"; replace the words "vulnerable groups" with the words "persons belonging to vulnerable groups"; and before the words "Increased recognition", insert the words "Provide assistance to Member States, upon their request, to enable the".

Paragraph 19.11

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"A greater and more integral promotion by the programme to the efforts to enhance coordination in the protection and realization of the right to development in the organization;"

Delete subparagraph (a).

In subparagraph (b), include proper references to the different responsibilities of the Secretariat and the Member States to achieve this accomplishment (*sic*); and after the word "decisions" insert the words "on

civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development".

Delete subparagraph (b).

After subparagraph (c), add the following subparagraph:

"(c) *bis* Degree of fulfilment of the obligation by developed countries to official development assistance;"

Paragraph 19.12

The paragraph should read:

"The objective of this subprogramme is to facilitate the effective functioning of the human rights treaty bodies and human rights organs and procedures established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments."

After the words "International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families", insert the words "and optional protocols to these human rights treaties, in particular the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child".

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "as well as the Charter-based human rights organs, in particular the Commission on Human Rights".

After the words, "International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families", insert the words "and of the Optional Protocols to the human rights treaties".

Delete the words "as well as ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families" and the words "established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments".

Replace the word "achieve" with the words "encourage the achievement of".

Paragraph 19.13

Delete subparagraph (b).

In subparagraph (b), before the word "Facilitating", insert the words "Upon the request of the Member States concerned".

Delete subparagraph (c).

Paragraph 19.14

Delete subparagraph (a).

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) To promote a deep reform process on the working methods of the treaty bodies;"

After subparagraph 14 (b), add the following subparagraph:

"19.14 (b) *bis* An increased level of satisfaction with the support provided to the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council and the Third Committee of the General Assembly."

Paragraph 19.15

Delete subparagraph (a).

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) An improvement in the working methods of the treaty bodies, in particular on the examination process of periodic reports;"

In subparagraph (c), an acceptable time limit should be specified.

In subparagraph (d), a time limit should be specified.

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph:

"(f) Decrease in the number of reservations to human rights treaties;"

After subprogramme (f), add the following subparagraph:

"(g) A reduction in the number and scope of State Parties' reservations to human rights treaties, particularly reservations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties."

Paragraph 19.16

Reposition subparagraph (c) before subparagraph (a) and renumber subparagraphs accordingly.

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "The overall objective is to translate international human rights norms into legislation and practice".

Paragraph 19.18

In the first sentence, after the word "provide", insert the words "upon the request of Member States".

In the first sentence, after the word "strategies", insert the words "when appropriate".

In the first sentence, before the words "regional and subregional organizations", insert the word "non-discriminatory".

In the first sentence, after the words "subregional organizations", insert the words "that work in harmony with the principles and activities of the United Nations and are recognized by all Member States of the United Nations in the region".

Paragraph 19.19

Delete the words "urgent appeals and other".

Paragraph 19.20

The paragraph should read:

"The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will establish in her office an emergency response task force in order to ensure quick responses to immediate threats of human rights violations in the discharge of her mandate".

Delete the paragraph.

Paragraph 19.21

The paragraph should read:

"With respect to field activities, the objectives are to ensure the efficiency of field missions and presences through the maintenance of contacts with Governments, appropriate sectors of the United Nations system, international and regional organizations when appropriate and others, by supporting and developing such activities through the development of training programmes and materials for human rights field staff and training in human rights for the appropriate components of other United Nations field operations".

Paragraph 19.22

Reformulate paragraph 19.22 so as not to infringe upon the sovereignty of Member States.

In subparagraph (a), after the word "practices", insert the words "in those cases where it is appropriate".

In subparagraph (b), after the word "implementation", insert the words "when appropriate"; and after the words "human rights", insert the words "which include all countries and take properly into account national specificities".

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) The adoption of proper and adequate measures by normative organs of the United Nations aimed at preventing situations of massive and flagrant violations of human rights;"

Delete subparagraph (d).

After subparagraph (d), add the following subparagraph:

"(e) The establishment of national human rights institutions;"

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph:

"(f) The improvement of the human rights situation in all parts of the world."

Paragraph 19.23

In subparagraph (a), replace the word "enumeration" with the word "elaboration", and after the word "adopted", insert the words "when appropriate".

Delete subparagraph (b).

Subparagraph (e) should read:

"(e) "Number of human rights violations reported by United Nations mechanisms and procedures and the number of communications received by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights from individuals and groups alleging human rights violations."

Subparagraph (e) should read:

"(e) The evaluation of those situations in which normative organs on human rights demonstrate the capacity to prevent and find durable solutions to situations which indicate the possibility of massive and flagrant violations of human rights."

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph:

"(f) Number of requests for which the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions responded favourably."

Delete all indicators of achievement.

Legislative mandates

Under programme 19, Human rights, add the following Commission on Human Rights resolutions:

2000/73	Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
1999/36	Right to Freedom of opinion and expression
1999/57	Promotion of the right to democracy

Under subprogramme 1, Right to development, research and analysis, add the following General Assembly resolution:

53/135	Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

add the following Commission on Human Rights resolutions:

2000/10	The right to food
2000/62	Promotion of the right to a democratic and equitable international order
2000/82	Effects of structural adjustment policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

and delete the following Commission on Human Rights resolution:

1999/61	The Question of the Death Penalty

Under subprogramme 2, Supporting human rights bodies and organs, add the following General Assembly resolution:

2200 A (XXI) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Conclusions and recommendations

49. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly carefully review programme 19, Human rights, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

C. Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

50. At its 28th and 29th meetings, on 21 and 22 August 2000, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/55/186).

51. The Controller introduced the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2002-2003 and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

52. The delegations reaffirmed General Assembly resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and noted that the proposed programme budget outline was submitted in accordance with those resolutions.

53. The timely submission of the outline was welcomed. It was hoped that the programme budget fascicles would also be submitted by April 2001, in compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

54. It was stated that the outline, as a political document, was an important step in the budgetary process since it gave Member States the opportunity to reflect on estimated overall resources prior to the submission of the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for the biennium. The outline provided the Secretary-General's first indication of the resources that would be needed to carry out all the mandated activities of the Organization. The budget outline was a preliminary indicative estimate and not a preliminary programme budget. It was observed that the outline had been formulated in accordance with priority areas recommended by the Committee for approval by the General Assembly in the context of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and that it would guide the Secretariat in implementing the objectives and mandates set by the Member States in an efficient and effective way.

55. The exclusion of a provision for special political missions was regretted. It was recalled that the Secretary-General, in his statement on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2000-2001, had indicated that the need to incorporate relatively large unspecified and unpredictable resource provisions within the budget after the adoption of the budget outline and mid-way through the biennium had to some extent undercut the basic purpose of the outline. Therefore, a

better solution was required in order to adequately finance mandated political missions as needs arose without negatively affecting other mandated programmes and activities. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a provision for special political missions in the programme budget outline had been approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/206 of 18 December 1998. It was stated that the relevance of the provisions of that resolution had been confirmed by the number of successful special political missions undertaken since then. Concern was expressed that the exclusion of a provision for special missions would give rise to a situation similar to one that occurred during the 1996-1997 biennium, where other mandated activities had to be curtailed to accommodate activities related to good offices, peacemaking and preventive diplomacy missions. There should not have been a linkage between the non-inclusion of a provision for special political missions and the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations, which was yet to be issued and considered by the General Assembly.

56. It was stated that the Secretary-General should present complete and transparent proposals regarding preliminary estimates of resources for special political missions according to resolutions 41/213 and 53/206 in the proposed budget outline, which clearly indicated the overall level of resources envisaged for the budget 2002-2003. In that regard, it was requested that the General Assembly should be provided, during its fifty-fifth regular session, with all related proposals in the context of the proposed budget outline, in order to consider them in a coherent, transparent and integral manner.

57. Concern was expressed that the proposed budget outline did not contain resources for strengthening the security and safety of United Nations personnel. The importance of providing adequate resources for that purpose was emphasized. It was noted in that connection that specific provisions were not identified in the 2002-2003 outline for the follow-up of a number of special conferences held during 2000-2001.

58. The increase in resources in certain areas of activities was noted. In that regard, it recalled that all mandated programmes must be fully funded, in particular, the priority areas approved by the General Assembly must be allocated adequate resources in the detailed formulation of the proposed programme budget.

59. It was stated that all proposals that the Secretary-General would present for the budget 2002-2003 should be directed to ensure the full implementation of all programmes and mandated activities. Any measure or procedure aimed at ensuring efficiency or economies should have the same objective.

60. The intention of the Secretary-General to revert to a number of issues and their effects on the outline later in the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly was noted. In that connection, it was observed that the exclusion of those activities envisaged for 2002-2003 in the programme budget outline limited the Committee's capacity to comment on the overall level of resources. It was stressed that the level of resources proposed in the budget outline should provide adequate resources for full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmed activities.

61. It was observed that the elimination of obsolete activities, to be effected in accordance with Regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation

and the Methods of Evaluation, should not be carried out for the purpose of achieving savings. That exercise was a prerogative of Member States.

62. It was stated that budgetary discipline should not be equated with zero nominal growth or negative growth. The General Assembly should review the matter, as the United Nations was increasingly being denied the means and the necessary resources to implement efficiently and effectively its mandates and programmes. At the same time, the view was expressed that rigorous scrutiny would need to be undertaken to achieve additional cost-effective measures and simplified procedures in order to release resources for additional mandated activities and higher priority issues. Support was expressed for increasing the number of posts for the maintenance of the Integrated Management Information System.

63. It was strongly emphasized that, during the reform period, the United Nations, or any other United Nations system organization for that matter, must firmly adhere to the budgetary policy of zero nominal growth or even negative nominal growth. Therefore, when the Secretary-General submitted his additional proposals at a later stage, he must identify compensating economies so as not to affect the overall level of the budget outline.

64. It was noted that the priorities of the proposed programme budget outline reflected those of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

65. It was regretted that compensating economies were not identified in the proposed programme budget outline, as had been done in the last proposal of the Secretary-General.

66. Satisfaction was expressed at the Secretary-General's stated intention to pursue efficiency savings and identify obsolete activities for reduction and/or termination. At the same time, the question was raised as to why it was not possible to develop precise estimates of savings to be achieved from implementing mandated activities more efficiently and economically.

67. Questions were raised about the proposal to set the Contingency Fund at 0.75 per cent of the budget, especially in the light of information from the Secretariat showing that the Fund had been underutilized during the last five bienniums.

68. It was expressed that special attention should be given to the projects initiated in the biennium 2000-2001, such as the United Nations Office in Nairobi, and the subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy. In that regard, it was recommended to the Secretary-General to allocate enough resources to strengthen those projects in the context of the programme budget 2002-2003.

Conclusions and recommendations

69. The Committee considered the outline, using as a framework the four elements listed in paragraph 1 of the report of the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/213, annex I:

(a) Preliminary estimate of resources to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(b) Priorities, reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(c) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

(d) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources.

70. The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/55/186) and recommended that the General Assembly should give further consideration to all the aspects contained in the proposed programme budget outline, in the light of the discussions reported above and taking into account the following:

(a) The preliminary estimates should be adequate for the full implementation of all mandated programmes and activities, including the projects initiated in the biennium 2000-2001, according to legislative intent and in the most effective and economical manner;

(b) The Committee regretted that full information on the preliminary estimate of resources was not available in the proposed budget outline despite General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 53/206;

(c) The Committee recalled resolution 53/206, in which the General Assembly endorsed the proposal of the Secretary-General that provisions should be made in the budget outline for expenditures for special political missions related to peace and security expected to be extended or approved in the course of the biennium;

(d) While noting that the Secretary-General would reflect, in his budget submission, additional cost-effective measures and simplified procedures, the Committee recommended that the Secretary-General's review of possible obsolete activities should remain within the context of relevant Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

(e) The Committee emphasized that Member States should demonstrate their commitment to the United Nations by, inter alia, meeting their financial obligations in full, on time and without conditions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules;

(f) The Committee recommended approval of the priorities contained in paragraph 10 of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for 2002-2003;

(g) The size of the contingency fund should be 0.75 per cent of the budget outline.

III. Report of the Joint Inspection Unit

Private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system

71. During the first part of its fortieth session, at its 24th meeting, on 23 June 2000, the Committee had considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system" (A/54/700) and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/54/700/Add.1). The Inspector of the Joint Inspection Unit, Francesco Mezzalama had introduced the report of the Unit, and the representative of the

Secretary-General had introduced the comments of the ACC thereon. The Inspector and representatives of the Secretary-General had responded to questions raised during the consideration of the report.

72. During the second part of its fortieth session, the Committee completed its consideration of this programme.

Discussion

73. The timely preparation of the report was welcomed as it provided the first comprehensive picture available on a subject of growing relevance. The report was described as very informative, and specific mention was made of the usefulness of reference materials contained in its annexes. The report was thus seen as contributing to greater transparency on a question of current interest and as clarifying the intent and scope of recent initiatives taken in this field. The document was also considered to be thought-provoking, as shown by the extensive debate on it in the Committee.

74. The diversity of the mandates and activities of the various components of the United Nations system was stressed. It was observed that a necessary degree of flexibility should be preserved and excessively rigid procedures avoided. However, the existence of risks associated with increased links with the private sector were underlined. It was stated that great caution should be exercised in protecting the integrity and independence of the Organization and in avoiding conflicts of interest and undue influence. The private sector, it was observed, was unlikely to cooperate with the United Nations for purely altruistic motives. It was noted, however, that certain activities of the private sector were directly in consonance with the goals of the United Nations, and specific mention was made of its contribution to the eradication of endemic diseases.

75. Concern was expressed at the perceived increased reliance of organizations of the United Nations system on financial support from the private sector, which was considered to be directly related to the decrease in public funds available for development assistance. A strengthened cooperation with the private sector should not occur without the close involvement of Governments concerned, and the whole process should be carefully monitored by the relevant governing bodies and subject to intergovernmental oversight.

76. The view was expressed that the growing cooperation between the United Nations and the private sector should be pursued within a defined framework with clear objectives. The need was underlined for establishing a working group to examine this issue in depth and submit recommendations to the General Assembly. In this context, it was also observed that the global compact of the Secretary-General should be discussed by the relevant intergovernmental forum. Governments should provide guidance in making the global compact consistent with the national policies of Member States.

Conclusions and recommendations

77. The Committee noted the importance and timeliness of the subject of the report.

78. The envisaged increase in relations between organizations of the United Nations system and the private sector should take into account the integrity,

independence and international character of the former. The Committee emphasized that cooperation with the private sector should be strictly in accordance with the relevant regulations and rules of the Organization and decisions of the General Assembly.

79. The Committee welcomed the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/54/700), with the following observations:

> **The Committee stressed the need for the organization to consider guidelines through intergovernmental process on relations with the private sector and to endeavour to ensure consistency of policy throughout the system. At the same time, it recognized the diversity of the mandates and activities of the various organizations of the system and the need to preserve a degree of flexibility.**

80. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council draw the attention of the governing bodies of all United Nations system organizations to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system and to the importance and timeliness of the subject of the report.

81. The Committee also expressed the wish to be informed on further developments on this issue throughout the system.

IV. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate

82. The Committee considered agenda item 6, entitled "Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate" and reviewed the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations agreed to by the Committee on the matter at its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions.

Duration of the sessions

83. The view was expressed that, given the heavy workload of the Committee, the possibility of extending the duration of the sessions should be considered. Alternatively, its agenda should include fewer items or be biennialized, and consideration should be given to shortening the Committee sessions. The view was also expressed that the duration of the sessions of the Committee should be respected in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976. It was also stated that the Committee should rationalize its work programme in order to make better and efficient use of the conference servicing resources allocated to it.

Conclusions and recommendations

84. The Committee reaffirmed its commitment to meeting its terms of reference as contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and its annex.

85. The Committee recalled paragraph 41 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 urging it to make further improvements in its programme and methods of work as would facilitate the full discharge of its responsibilities.

86. The Committee also recalled paragraph 46 of the annex to resolution 32/197 calling for measures to be taken by the Member States to facilitate representation at a high level of expertise and to ensure the continuity of such representation.

87. The Committee reiterated that the revisions to the medium-term plan, or in case of a new draft, legislative mandates should be included in the form of footnotes.

88. The Committee emphasized that, in accordance with paragraph 27 of part I of General Assembly resolution 54/249, all future programme budgets should include legislative mandates for programme narratives.

89. The Committee reiterated its recommendations that the relevant intergovernmental bodies, as well as the Economic and Social Council and the Main Committees of the General Assembly, should include in their programme of work an agenda item on programme planning for the review of the proposed medium-term plan and its revisions.

90. The Committee emphasized the need for brief and concise oral presentation of reports by the Secretariat.

91. The Committee emphasized the need for the presence of senior programme managers to assist the Committee in its deliberations on the agenda items pertaining to the areas of their respective responsibilities.

92. The Committee underlined the importance of effective implementation of its conclusions and recommendations.

Annex I

Agenda for the second part of the fortieth session of the Committee

1. Organization of work.
2. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme planning:
      1. Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999;
      2. Ways in which the full implementation and quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States;
   (b) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005:
      Programme 7: Economic and social affairs
      Programme 19: Human rights
   (c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.
3. Report of the Joint Inspection Unit.
4. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.
5. Adoption of the report of the Committee on the second part of its fortieth session.

Annex II

List of documents before the Committee at the second part of its fortieth session

A/54/700 and Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Private sector involvement and cooperation with the United Nations system" and the comments by the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon
A/55/6 (Prog.7)	Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005: Economic and social affairs"
A/55/6 (Prog. 19)	Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005: Human rights"
A/55/73	Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999
A/55/85	Report of the Secretary-General on ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States
A/55/186	Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2002-2003
E/AC.51/2000/L.7	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work for the second part of the fortieth session of the Committee
E/AC.51/2000/L.8 and Add.1-7	Draft report of the Committee on the second part of its fortieth session
E/AC.51/2000/INF.2	List of delegations

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